

Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities

Quarterly Meeting

Holiday Inn Austin Midtown

6000 Middle Fiskville Road

Austin, Texas 78752

Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Executive Committee Meeting

Room: Cedar/Cherry

Thursday, February 9, 2017

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Committee of the Whole

Room: Hill Country B

Lunch provided for Council Members and staff

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Legislative Visits

Texas State Capitol

Friday, February 10, 2017

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Project Development Committee Meeting

Room: Maple/Mesquite

Public Policy Committee Meeting

Room: Cedar/Cherry

10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Council Meeting

Room: Hill Country B

Executive Committee Meeting — Agenda

Holiday Inn Austin Midtown

Room: Cedar/Cherry

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Call to Order

- 1. Introductions of Committee Members, Staff and Visitors**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Consideration of November 2-3, 2016, Minutes — TAB 1 — ACTION ITEM**
- 4. Chair's Report**
 - A. Council Member Absences
 - B. Other Updates
- 5. Executive Director's Report — TAB 2**
 - A. Stipends Approved
 - B. Staff Updates
 - C. Other Updates
- 6. Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion**
- 7. Grants Activities Reports — TAB 3**
 - A. Grants and Projects Update
 - B. Independent Audit Status Report
 - C. Risk Assessment of TCDD Projects
- 8. TCDD Quarterly Financial Report — TAB 4**
- 9. Consideration of New Grant Awards — TAB 5 — ACTION ITEM**
 - A. Youth Leadership Development
 - B. Outreach and Development
- 10. Consideration of Review Panel Members — TAB 6 — ACTION ITEM**
- 11. Conflict of Interest Disclosures**
- 12. Other Updates**

Adjourn

Committee of the Whole Meeting — Agenda

Holiday Inn Austin Midtown

Room: Hill Country B

Thursday, February 9, 2017, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Call to Order

- 1. Introductions of Committee Members, Staff and Visitors**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Review of Public Policy Priorities — TAB 7**
- 4. Public Policy Advocacy Strategies – Jason Sabo**

Adjourn

Project Development Committee Meeting — Agenda

Holiday Inn Austin Midtown

Room: Maple/Mesquite

Friday, February 10, 2017, 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Call to Order

- 1. Introductions of Committee Members, Staff and Visitors**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Consideration of November 3, 2016, Minutes — TAB 8 — ACTION ITEM**
- 4. Chair's Remarks**
 - A. Member Absences
 - B. Chair's Quarterly Activities
- 5. Member Updates:** Reports of Members' quarterly activities
- 6. Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion**
- 7. Staff Reports**
 - A. Status of New Projects
 - B. Project Funds Available
 - C. Other Updates
- 8. Future Activities for State Plan Implementation — TAB 9**
 - A. State Plan Projects List
 - B. Other Discussion Items
- 9. Future Project Funding Priorities — TAB 10 — ACTION ITEM**
- 10. Other Discussion Items**

Adjourn

Public Policy Committee Meeting — Agenda

Holiday Inn Austin Midtown

Room: Cedar/Cherry

Friday, February 10, 2017, 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Call to Order

- 1. Introductions of Committee Members, Staff and Visitors**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Consideration of November 3, 2016, Minutes — TAB 11— ACTION ITEM**
- 4. Chair's Remarks**
 - A. Member Absences
 - B. Chair's Quarterly Activities
- 5. Member Updates:** Reports of Members' quarterly activities
- 6. Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion**
- 7. Public Policy Staff Activities — TAB 12**
 - A. State Policy Activities
 - B. State Supported Living Centers Update
 - C. Federal Policy Activities
- 8. Other Discussion Items**

Adjourn

Council Meeting — Agenda

Holiday Inn Austin Midtown

Room: Hill Country B

Friday, February 10, 2017, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Call to Order

- 1. Introductions of Committee Members, Staff and Visitors**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Consent Items — ACTION ITEM**
 - A. Consideration of November 3-4 , 2016, Minutes — **TAB 13**
 - B. Excused Absences of Council Members
- 4. Chair's and Executive Director's Report**
 - A. Staff Updates
 - B. Conferences
 - C. Other Discussion
- 5. Election of Council Vice-Chair — ACTION ITEM**
- 6. Election of Self-Advocate Member-at-Large to the Executive Committee — ACTION ITEM**
- 7. Future Project Funding Priorities — ACTION ITEM — TAB 10**
- 8. Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion**
- 9. Communications and Marketing Activities Report — TAB 14**
- 10. Executive Committee Report**
 - A. Grant Awards
 1. New Grant Awards
 2. Stipends
 - B. Grant Activities Report
 - C. New Review Panel Members
 - D. TCDD Financial Reports
 - E. Conflict of Interest
 - F. Other Discussion Items
- 11. Project Development Committee Report**
 - A. Grants and Projects Report
 - B. Other Discussion Items
- 12. Public Policy Committee Report**
 - A. Public Policy Staff Activities
 - B. Other Discussion Items
- 13. State Agency Representatives Quarterly Activities Update**
- 14. Announcements and Updates — TAB 15**

Adjourn

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Tab 1

Background:

Minutes of the November 2-3, 2016, Executive Committee meeting are included for your review.

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 3

Expected Action:

The Committee will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING November 2-3, 2016 — MINUTES

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

Committee Members Present

Mary Durham, Council Chair
Gladys Cortez
Michael Peace
Lora Taylor

Committee Members Absent

Kristen Cox

Council Members Present

Rick Tisch

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive
Director
Martha Cantu
Cynthia Ellison
Danny Fikac
Jessica Ramos
Joshua Ryf
Koren Vogel

Call To Order

The Executive Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Wednesday, November 2, 2016, in the Colony E Room at the Sonesta Bee Cave - Austin, 12525 Bee Cave Parkway, Bee Cave, TX 78738. Council Chair Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 3:37 PM.

1. **Introductions**

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. **Public Comments**

No public comments were offered to the Committee.

3. **Consideration of Minutes**

The minutes were reviewed and no additions or corrections were noted.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the August 3-4, 2016, Executive Committee meeting as presented.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Gladys Cortez

The motion **passed** unanimously.

4. **Chair's Report**

Council Chair Durham reported the expected absences for the Council and Committee meetings, which include Kristine Clark, Kristen Cox, Mateo Delgado and Brandon Pharris. Patty Anderson, alternate representative from Disability Rights Texas (DRT) will attend meetings on Thursday but neither she nor Mary Faithfull will attend on Friday. Zach Ahonle has been named alternate representative from the Texas Center for Disability Studies. Ahonle, Ron Roberts of Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Rachel Jew of the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) attended Council orientation on November 1, 2016 and are now eligible to vote.

Durheim referred members to the attendance chart in the Council meeting materials and noted that she and Executive Director Beth Stalvey will address the issue of member absences at a future meeting with staff from the Governor's Appointments Office.

5. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Stalvey reviewed stipend awards that were approved during the past quarter to the following applicants:

- Texas Center for Disability Studies (TCDS): Events stipend for up to \$7,500 for The Texas Gathering on October 20-22, 2016, in Arlington.
- Texas Center for Disability Studies (TCDS): Speakers stipend for up to \$4,000 for The Texas Gathering on October 20-22, 2016, in Arlington.
- NAMI Texas: Events stipend for up to \$7,500 for the 2016 NAMI Texas Annual Conference on November 7-8, 2016 in Austin.
- The Arc of Greater Houston: Events stipend for up to \$1,875 for First Annual Positive Futures Conference on November 18, 2016 in Houston.
- Volar Center for Independent Living: Events stipend for up to \$6,000 for the Our Lives Disabilities Conference and Service Providers Expo on November 29, 2016 in El Paso.

Stalvey provided an update on TCDD staff noting that Meghan Regis began her position as Public Policy Specialist on September 1, 2016. Interviews were conducted for the vacant Grants Management Specialist position and two finalists were selected. References are being contacted.

The FY 2017 – FY 2021 State Plan was submitted on August 15, 2016. The submission was completed on new software for which DD Councils were the pilot organization. Stalvey extended her gratitude to Planning Director Joanna Cordry and Planning Specialist Danny Fikac along with all TCDD staff and Council members for their efforts to complete this complex process to produce a stellar plan.

Johnson Applied Solutions (JAS) was selected as the contractor for the Partners in Policymaking (PIP) project. They are a newly accredited statewide Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) as well as a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business based in Bulverde, TX. Their strengths in administrative capacity and innovative ideas for expanding PIP were the deciding factor in their selection. The first year of the project will focus on planning and JAS staff members are expected to attend Thursday's meetings.

Stalvey noted that A Circle of Ten have returned the equipment as requested following the close of that project.

TCDD hosted the NACDD Executive Director's Summit in September. The event was very well attended with 36 states represented and included the Texas DD Network Partners sharing experiences for their collaborative efforts. A panel discussion on Texas initiatives for Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision-Making was held at the Texas Capitol and included Senator Judith Zaffirini, former TCDD Public Policy Specialist Belinda Carlton, David Slayton of the

Office of Court Administration, and Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan Hecht who discussed their work to see these changes implemented, as well as the first person to sign a Supported Decision-Making Agreement along with his supporter to discuss experiences using the Agreement in the past year.

As approved in the operating expense budget, updated audio-visual equipment has been purchased for the TCDD conference room. Once all the equipment has been installed, TCDD will be able to host webinars and video conferences with grantees and other colleagues.

Stalvey reviewed activities planned for the Committee of the Whole meeting including policy discussions on education and legislative appropriations requests as well as a screening of a documentary called *Bottom Dollars* that looks at sub-minimum wage employment. Members will also have an opportunity to work with staff on summarizing issues that they wish to discuss with policy makers in February.

6. Disproportionalities and Disparities

Executive Director Stalvey reported on the Undoing Racism workshop that took place August 30-31, 2016 in Austin. There were 40 participants including nine TCDD staff members, three Council members, grantees, community leaders and colleagues from the disability advocacy community. The workshop was conducted by The People's Institute and covered topics such as cultural diversity, racism, poverty and opportunities for systems change. Members and staff who participated in the workshop reported emotional and challenging conversations that created awareness of issues. However, specific strategies to address the issues were limited.

The workshop is part of an ongoing and continued effort by staff and the Council to address disproportionalities and disparities. Each Committee and the Council will keep disproportionalities and disparities as a standing agenda item to promote awareness and implementation in all Council business. Stalvey added that a staff workgroup has been formed to continue discussions from that perspective.

7. Grants Activities Reports

Grants Management Director Cynthia Ellison provided an update to note that five new grant projects began during the last quarter including three leadership and advocacy projects, one public policy fellow project, and one outreach and development project. She added that two public policy fellowship projects concluded during the quarter.

Ellison reviewed the Independent Audit Status Report noting that all are now complete and there were no significant findings. She reviewed the Grants Monitoring Exceptions Report which indicates that three onsite reviews were completed during the quarter and two are considered "pending" with outstanding paperwork from the grantees. Ellison also reviewed the Risk Assessment of TCDD Projects which does not indicate any outstanding concerns.

8. TCDD Quarterly Financial Report

Operations Director Martha Cantu reviewed the FY 2016 TCDD Administrative and Expense budget, noting that with almost all expenses cleared, 93% of the budget has been expended.

Although deficits show for the line items on benefits and supplies, the overall total is less than the amount allocated.

Cantu next reviewed the Summary of Funds report and noted that all FY 2015 funding has been re-assigned and will need to be spent by September 30, 2017 or will need to be returned to AIDD. She explained that FY 2016 and FY 2017 funds will fluctuate depending on project expenditures and actual start dates for the projects to which these funds have been assigned.

9. Appeal of Funding Decision

Executive Director Stalvey discussed the appeal of funding decision from West Central Texas Regional Foundation who submitted an application for the Higher Education Collaborative RFP. In her investigation, there is no evidence that TCDD process was not followed in the review of the proposal. Stalvey reviewed multiple factors the Committee reviews when determining which applicant receives a grant award.

MOTION: To uphold the Executive Committee decision to not fund the Higher Education Collaborative to West Central Texas Regional Foundation.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Michael Peace

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Stalvey discussed the TCDD response to non-funded applicants and proposed edits to the notification letter to be more clear about the review process, Council funding decisions, and appeals.

Stalvey also discussed how information is shared with the Executive Committee as they review proposals and offered a checklist that includes staff comments, previous compliance with grant projects, and other review criteria. Members also raised the issue of posting proposal details in meeting materials due to the proprietary nature and directed staff to email information for their review and discussion.

10. Consideration of Continuation Grant Awards

Grants Management Director Ellison and TCDD Grants Management Specialists Sonya Hosey and Wendy Jones provided information regarding continuation grant awards to the Committee. Hosey & Jones participated with the Committee via conference call.

Ellison reviewed the executive summary for continuation funding to Reaching Families Advocacy and Support Group for Culturally Appropriate Family Support project. The goal of the project is to increase awareness, provide support and access to resources for the Ethiopian, Eritrean, and Kenyan communities in Dallas, Collin, Denton and Tarrant counties. Project staff members hold educational gatherings and teleconferences, assist families with ARD meetings and access to therapies outside of the school settings, provide information through various media outlets, and

attend local events as collaborators and exhibitors. Staff do not have any concerns with this project.

MOTION: To approve up to \$71,072 in continuation funding to Reaching Families Advocacy and Support Group for the second year of a four-year Culturally Appropriate Family Support project.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez

SECOND: Michael Peace

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 1).

Grants Management Specialist Hosey reviewed the executive summary for continuation funding to Community Healthcore for the Building Community Capacity through Collaboration project. The project goal is to identify, enhance and expand community supports in order to prevent and reduce admissions of people with developmental disabilities to state institutions. The project hosted three two-day Person Centered Thinking trainings with a total of 113 participants, 32 participants were trained in PATH facilitation, the Faith-based Respite Initiative established two programs to provide respite and inclusive church services, and the Community Leadership Team established several inclusive community activities. Staff do not have any concerns with this project.

MOTION: To approve up to \$137,882 in continuation funding to Community Healthcore for the third year of a five-year Building Community Capacity through Collaboration project.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Michael Peace

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 2).

Grants Management Specialist Jones reviewed the executive summary for continuation funding to Disability Rights Texas for Stakeholder Training on Guardianship Alternatives. The goal of the project is to provide information and training to targeted audiences about guardianship alternatives and the new supported decision-making process. Educational materials for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families as well as legal professionals, school administrators and service providers are being developed and training classes are being implemented. Over 1650 individuals have already participated in training sessions. Staff do not have any concerns with this project.

MOTION: To approve up to \$40,000 in continuation funding to Disability Rights Texas for the second year of a three-year Stakeholder Training on Guardianship Alternatives project.

MADE BY: Michael Peace

SECOND: Lora Taylor

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 3).

11. Approval of Review Panel Members

Planning Specialist Danny Fikac presented nine names and stated qualifications of individuals who have submitted recent applications to serve as Independent Review Panel Members. Members discussed the names presented and agreed to add eight individuals to the Review Panel list. The 9th name was rejected due to a lack of detail in his reported qualifications. It was also noted that these names are additions to a much larger list and although a number of individuals presented are from the same geographic area and know each other, they will not be selected to serve on the same panel due to different subject area expertise as well as a system of checks and balances within TCDD processes to establish each Independent Review Panel.

MOTION: To approve Charlotte Chavez, Erica Gutierrez, Turner Jamison, Stephanie Martinez, Jessica Murray, Chloe Pierce, Vickie Pierce, and Damien Tabor to be included in the list of potential TCDD Independent Review Panel members.

MADE BY: Mary Durham

SECOND: Lora Taylor

Durham noted that if the individual who was not approved wishes to submit additional background information, he can be considered again. The motion passed unanimously. (Attachment 4)

12. Discussion of TCDD Website-Council Member Only Section

Communications Director Joshua Ryf discussed the Council member only section of the TCDD website and reviewed content that is exclusive to this site. He noted that following the recent audit of website maintenance all members will receive a unique user name and password. Committee members discussed the information available on the site as well as the format of Council meeting materials. It was determined that most of the material that is on the Council Member Only site is available through other sources.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the elimination of the Council Member Only section of the TCDD website.

MADE BY: Michael Peace

SECOND: Lora Taylor

The motion passed unanimously.

13. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Committee members reviewed updated conflict of interest disclosure information for Council members and staff. No concerns were noted.

Recess

Chair Durham recessed the Executive Committee at 6:04 PM.

Thursday, November 3, 2016

Committee Members Present

Mary Durham, Council Chair
Gladys Cortez
Michael Peace
Lora Taylor

Committee Members Absent

Kristen Cox

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive
Director
Martha Cantu
Joanna Cordry
Cynthia Ellison
Jessica Ramos
Koren Vogel

Reconvene

Chair Durham reconvened the Executive Committee in the same location on Thursday, November 3, 2016 at 4:13 PM.

14. Committee Chair Debriefing

Public Policy Committee Chair Lora Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee had a healthy discussion on disproportionalities and disparities and other action items.

Project Development Committee Chair Gladys Cortez reported that the Project Development Committee discussed the Texas Sibling Network, opportunities for screening the “Bottom Dollars” documentary, and possible presentations at the February Committee of the Whole meeting.

Adjourn

Chair Durham adjourned the Executive Committee at 4:40 PM

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date

Attachments

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
Executive Committee
Review of Proposed Activities and Budget**

ITEM: C

Date: 11/2/16

Grantee: Reaching Families Advocacy and Support Group

Year: 2 of 4

Project Title: Culturally Appropriate Family Support

Project Location: Dallas, Collin, Tarrant and Denton Counties

TCDD RFP Intent

The project intent is to help selected organization(s) build on the work done during the previous project from TCDD to help individuals with developmental disabilities and their families receive culturally appropriate community-based services and supports.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$75,000 for up to 4 years.

Expected Results: At least one conference or training and other activities to support at least 100 families or individuals to get their needs from service providers met; support at least 3 leaders from the individuals being trained and provide information to TCDD to change programs or policies to promote culturally appropriate services and supports; and, grow the organization.

Project Goals and Objectives for Year 1

Goal: To increase awareness, provide support and access to resources for the Ethiopian, Eritrean, and Kenyan communities residing in Dallas, Collin, Denton and Tarrant counties.

Objectives:

Project Accomplishments for Year 1

Year 1: At the time the continuation application was submitted, six monthly educational gatherings and six teleconferences were held; 36 families were supported through the Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) review process; 30 families were assisted in finding occupational, speech and behavior therapy outside of school; grant staff have accompanied families to clinic visits to help facilitate health care for their children; the project director has spoken on multiple occasions on Ethiopian and Eritrean radio programs on topics such as autism, early intervention and advocacy and as result, have secured a weekly time on an Eritrean radio show to provide resources for families; a resource and awareness booth was held at an Ethiopian Day Community Celebration in which approximately 1500 families and children attended; the project collaborated the St. Michael Ethiopian Orthodox Church and Ethiopian Health Care professionals for a Children's Health Day event for the Ethiopian and Eritrean communities; and, the project collaborated

with the National Autism Association of North Texas and Education Service Center Region 10 in which 175 families and educators attended a daylong seminar on Inclusive Education.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2

Goal: Same as above.

Objectives:

- 1) Provide education and information for families/caregivers on DD/IDD related topics;
- 2) Provide information and support to faith-based communities on inclusive programs for children with DD/IDD;
- 3) Provide DD/IDD awareness in East African immigrant communities in the Dallas-Fort Worth area; and
- 4) Provide support to East African families caring for children and adults with DD/IDD.

Council Considerations

Public Policy Considerations:

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; moderate risk monitoring (award within awards).

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends the Council to consider continued funding.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Expended Total Amounts
Expended Year 1 (7 months) (Consultants:\$13,088)	\$70,606/\$37,680	\$23,569/\$15,197	\$94,175/\$52,877

Amounts Requested for Year Two Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel Services	\$42,153	\$0	\$42,153
2. Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Purchased Services (Consultants: \$175,000)	\$24,003	\$24,115	\$48,118
4. Property/Materials	\$0	\$828	\$828
5. Rental/Leasing	\$3,192	\$2,600	\$3,192
6. Utilities	\$1,724	\$360	\$360
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$50	\$1,774
Budget period totals	\$71,072	\$24,993	\$96,065

Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
Executive Committee
Review of Proposed Activities and Budget

ITEM: A

Date: 11/12/16

Grantee: Community Healthcore

Year: 3 of 5

Project Title: Building Community Capacity through Collaboration

Project Location: Longview (Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Upshur)

Website: www.communityhealthcore.org

TCDD RFP Intent

The project intent is to establish and/or strengthen a network of appropriately diverse organizations to develop a strategic plan to build the capacity of that community to provide community-based services that will decrease the need for individuals with developmental disabilities (IDD) to be served in an institution.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$150,000 for up to five years.

Expected Results: The East Texas Community Living Network (ETCLN) will enhance and expand community supports for people with disabilities in order to prevent and reduce admissions of people with developmental disabilities to institutions.

Project Goals for Year 1–2

Goal 1: To identify, enhance and expand community supports for people with disabilities in order to prevent and reduce admissions of people with developmental disabilities to institutions.

Project Accomplishments per Goal

The Institute for Person Centered Practices hosted a total of three two-day, Person-Centered Thinking trainings with a total of 113 participants. Thirty-two participants were trained in PATH facilitation and six PATH plans were created for individuals with I/DD in the community. As a result of the PATH training, one focus person became a secretary in a self-advocacy group, displayed less pervasive behaviors and the family increased awareness of more services and options. Through the Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) initiative five individuals received support, one 7-year old child with Autism who is now building communication skills through Picture Exchange Communication Systems (PECS), toilet training, and decreasing inappropriate behaviors. The Faith-based Respite initiative built a relationship with the Diocese of Tyler, which is divided into 51 parishes, 19 missions and 3

pastoral centers with a large population of people with Spanish as their primary language. From these efforts, two faith-based programs were established and seven individuals with I/DD participated in respite and inclusive services in the church. Through the Community Leadership Team initiative three teams were developed and four mini-grants established. Examples of mini-grants include: therapeutic bible journaling workshops with an average of 65 in attendance with approximately 48 participants with I/DD; another grant Panola College Community Leadership Team conducted a children's grief camp with twenty-eight children in attendance of which eight children with I/DD; and in Gregg County residents partnered with a music teacher for music lessons/therapy.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 3

Goal: Same as above

Objectives:

- 1) Increase the capacity of the community to better support persons who have developmental disabilities through universal positive supports;
- 2) Community leadership teams will develop projects they deem beneficial to the community;
- 3) Assist the expansion of respite through faith-based and other associational groups providing short-term respite programs; and, promote positive stories of how people are supporting people with developmental disabilities in the community.

Council Considerations

Public Policy Considerations:

Grant Management Considerations: Considerable risk monitoring (awards within awards; award amount).

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends Council to consider continued funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Expended Total Amounts
Expended Year 1 (13 months) (Consultant: \$46,523)	\$138,046/\$108,850	\$41,264/\$32,535	\$179,310/\$141,385
Expended Year 2 (9 months) (Consultant: \$13,424)	\$78,329/\$58,479	\$22,866/\$31,427	\$101,195/\$89,906

Amounts Requested for Year Three Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel Services	\$66,087	\$10,915	\$77,002
2. Travel	\$1,795	\$0	\$1,795
3. Purchased Services (Consultant: \$32,800)	\$46,859	\$28,924	\$75,783
4. Property/Materials	\$556	\$0	\$556
5. Rental/Leasing	\$2,136	\$0	\$2,136
6. Utilities	\$2,460	\$0	\$2,460
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$11,989	\$0	\$11,989
Budget period totals	\$131,882	\$39,839	\$171,721

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
Executive Committee
Review of Proposed Activities and Budget**

ITEM: B

Date: 11/2/16

Grantee: Disability Rights Texas

Year: 2 of 3

Project Title: Stakeholder Training on Guardianship Alternatives

Project Location: Statewide

Website: none

TCDD RFP Intent

The intent of the Stakeholder Training on Guardianship Alternatives proposal is for an organization to develop and provide training to promote the informed use of supported decision-making, services, supports, and existing alternatives to guardianship that assist individuals to make their own decisions, maintain civil rights, and reduce the need for guardianship.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$40,000 for up to three years.

Expected Results: The grantee will collaborate with the GRDSM stakeholders to develop training materials tailored to each audience group, including probate and county court judges; probate attorneys; individuals with disabilities, their families and supporters; and special education administrators. It is especially important to provide training to judges. The grantee will present at least four conferences hosted by stakeholder groups. The grantee will identify other local training partners and present at least four trainings, including one to education professionals and one to legal professionals. After the project ends, the grantee will be available to provide TCDD with up-to-date information and recommendations that can be used to develop further policy actions and future projects.

Project Goals and Objectives for Year 1

Goal: Disability Rights Texas (DRTX) proposes a statewide project to provide information and training to targeted audiences about alternatives to guardianship, including the new supported decision-making process. Target audiences include individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and their families; legal professionals; and school administrators and service providers.

Objectives:

- 1) Establish Project Advisory Committee (PAC);
- 2) Collaborate with Guardianship Reform Supported Decision Making (GRDSM) workgroup stakeholders to develop training;

- 3) Collaborate with GRDSM stakeholders to test and evaluate proposed training materials and presentations;
- 4) Present at annual conferences sponsored by GRDSM stakeholders;
- 5) Raise awareness of alternatives to guardianship training opportunities;
- 6) Facilitate and promote training to probate judges and county court judges;
- 7) Deliver alternatives to guardianship training to legal professionals, individuals with disabilities, their families and supporters, and special education administrators;
- 8) Evaluate quality and effectiveness of training;
- 9) Develop recommendations for future policy actions and program projects.

Project Accomplishments for Year 1

Year 1: A Project Advisory Committee (PAC) was established and approved. Project staff, including the Project Director and Legal Director, began to inventory and review existing materials on alternatives to guardianship and supported decision-making. A list was provided to TCDD. Additional topics and training materials needed were determined. The grantee is partnering with several entities including ADAPT of Texas, the Arc of Texas, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, the Hogg Foundation, and Texas Advocates. Presentations to several organizations have been made, including the Breaking Barriers Conference, Ysleta ISD Transition Conference, Texas Transition Conference, ESC Regions 20 and 2, Austin Travis County Integral Care, and others. The grantee has developed webinar presentations regarding alternatives to guardianship and supported decision-making. Drafts of 2 testimonial videos were submitted to TCDD. DRTX attorneys presented trainings to Vinson and Elkins Pro Bono SDMA Clinic, Elder Law Section of the San Antonio Bar Association, DRTX law clerks, and UT Law School. During year one of the project, over 1650 individuals from around the state participated in training sessions.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2

Goal: Same as above.

Objectives:

- 1) Collaborate with Guardianship Reform Supported Decision Making (GRDSM) workgroup stakeholders to review and revise training materials;
- 2) Present training sessions at annual or state-wide conferences sponsored by GRDSM stakeholders;
- 3) Raise awareness of alternatives to guardianship and training opportunities;
- 4) Facilitate and promote training to legal professionals, including probate judges and county court judges;
- 5) Deliver alternative to guardianship training to individuals with disabilities, their families and supporters, legal, education, medical and other professionals;
- 6) Train and support community partners to provide alternatives to guardianship, self-determination and supported decision-making trainings for individuals with disabilities and their families;

- 7) Evaluate quality and effectiveness of training provided;
- 8) Develop recommendations for future policy actions and program projects.

Council Considerations

Public Policy Considerations:

Grant Management Considerations: No Concerns.

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends continued funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Expended Total Amounts
Expended Year 1 (6 months) (Consultant: \$20,190)	\$40,000/\$8,230	\$13,333/\$5,207	\$53,333/\$13,437

Amounts Requested for Year Two Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel Services	\$0	\$1,216	\$1,216
2. Travel	\$21,092	\$1,817	\$22,909
3. Purchased Services (Consultants: \$175,000)	\$18,758	\$10,301	\$29,059
4. Property/Materials	\$150	\$0	\$150
5. Rental/Leasing	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. Utilities	\$0	\$0	\$0
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Budget period totals	\$40,000	\$13,334	\$53,334

New Reviewer Applications

Last Name	First Name	Home City	Qualifications (as provided by the applicant)
Akeem	Chopane	Beaumont	Bachelor and Master's Degree
Chavez	Charlotte	Cedar Park	I'm a mother of 4 grown children. My youngest is a 23-year-old son with Down Syndrome and multiple health issues. I'm also employed by an HCS Service Provider (Draco) working with disabled adults.
Gutierrez	Erica	Round Rock	Currently have a MSW working as a Medicaid Waiver Service Coordinator with Bluebonnet Trails Community Services.
Jamison	Turner	Marble Falls	For the majority of my life, I have received services for my disability. Along with mainstream education, I have experiences in special education services, and services for day habilitation, employment, supported home living, community and in home support. I have a firsthand experience regarding the importance and impact of the programs your grants support.
Martinez	Stephanie	Round Rock	I have B.A. in Psychology [Developmental concentration]. I am also currently going through M.S. in Developmental Disabilities program. Currently employed at Bluebonnet Trails as Team Lead for Williamson and Burnet counties HCS Service Coordinators. Service Coordinator for almost 2 years Community services/resources/programs.
Murray	Jessica	Leander	My background is also in Elementary Education; specializing in Kindergarten and Special Education. Currently a service coordinator with Bluebonnet Trails working with individuals with intellectual disabilities. For the past 8 months, I have been in this role in Texas. Prior to moving to Texas I was a case manager for people with diagnosis of Mental Health and IDD for 9 years in Indiana. In Indiana, I was also a developmental therapist for early intervention for 4 years.
Pierce	Chloe	Cottonwood Shores	I have worked as a provider for IDD services for 9 years, and in that time I have done everything from direct care to the management of various programs. I am currently employed as the Program Coordinator overseeing the provision of services for Bluebonnet Trails in Burnet County; and currently manage the Day Habilitation center, the Supported Employment program, and the Supported Home Living services. I have a family member with I/DD.

Last Name	First Name	Home City	Qualifications (as provided by the applicant)
Pierce	Vickie	Burnet	I have a brother with I/DD two years younger than me. I have also worked in the field of IDD for over 22 years including direct care services, group home manager and supported home living services manager, and currently I work for Bluebonnet Trails Community Services. I feel like I have an understanding in the individual needs and actions. I care very much for their well- being and love the field I work in.
Tabor	Damian	Corpus Christi	I am the Director for the A.D.A.P.T organization in Corpus Christi. I work for Coastal Bend Independent Center in Corpus Christi.

Background:

- **Stipends Grants Applications Approved** — TCDD Policies provide for the Executive Director to approve applications for Events Stipends and Presentation Support Stipends. Nine (9) stipend applications were approved during the quarter to the following organizations. The summaries of each are enclosed.
 1. **Family to Family** for “12th Annual Conference and Resource Fair” January 28, 2017, in Houston. (Events Stipend)
 2. **Austin Travis County Integral Care** for the “Central Texas African American Family Support Conference” February 8-9, 2017, in Austin. (Events Stipend)
 3. **Austin Travis County Integral Care** for the “Central Texas African American Family Support Conference” February 8-9, 2017, in Austin. (Speakers Stipend)
 4. **The Arc of Texas** for the “24th Annual Inclusion Works Conference” February 12-14, 2017, in Houston. (Events Stipend)
 5. **Attention Deficit Disorders Association – Southern Region** for the “29th Annual ADDA-SR Conference” February 25, 2017, in Houston. (Events Stipend)
 6. **Jewish Family Services** for the “UP Abilities: Gaming, Technology and ReelAbilities” February 9-13, 2017, in Houston. (Speakers Stipend)
 7. **Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition (CDIC)** for the “28th Annual Children’s Disabilities Symposium” March 25, 2017, in El Paso. (Events Stipend)
 8. **Coalition of Texans with Disabilities** for the “37th Annual Convention” April 5-7, 2017, in Austin. (Events Stipend)
 9. **The Arc of Texas** for the “Legislative Advocacy Training and Advocacy Day at the Capitol” April 6, 2017, in Austin. (Events Stipend)
- **Attendance Report** — A quarterly summary of attendance of Council members at meetings is also enclosed.

Important Terms:

Events Stipend Grants: Organizations may apply for up to \$7500 to pay for conference registration, hotel rooms, attendants, respite, travel expenses, etc. for self-advocates and their family members to attend conferences and other events.

Speakers Stipend Grants: Sponsoring organization of the meeting, conference, workshop, or seminar may apply for up to \$7500 per event for transportation, meals, and lodging for speakers, expenses for an attendant, respite care or other accommodations, as well as speaker fees.

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 5**Expected Action:**

The Executive Committee will review the information provided and may provide guidance to staff.

Council — Agenda Item 10. A.**Expected Action:**

The Council will receive a report on the Executive Committee discussion.

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 1

Date: 11/7/16

Organization: Family to Family (Conference)

City, State: Houston, TX

Federal: \$4,500

Match: \$750

Event: Conference: 12th Annual Conference & Resource Fair

Date: January 28, 2017

Hotel: Houston Community College-Spring Branch Campus

City, State: Houston, Texas

Previously Funded: Yes: 2016, 2015, 2014

Comments: A one day conference focusing on improving advocacy skills of family members & youth with disabilities to improve post school outcomes for youth and/or educate them about the variety of options in employment, post secondary education/training and independent living using a person centered approach.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover: Registration — 150 individuals = \$4,500.00

Total cost (federal): = \$4,500.00

Applicant match covers: conference materials:

Conference materials — 150 (150@ \$2/individual) = \$ 300.00

Printing and Reproduction of Conference materials (150 @ \$3/individual) = \$ 450.00

Total cost (match): = \$750.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=TX, email=beth.stalvey@tdd.texas.gov, ou=US
Date: 2016.11.10 08:52:00 -0500

Date: 11/10/16

Comments:

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 2

Date: 11/14/16

Organization: Austin Travis County Integral Care

City, State: Austin, TX

Federal: \$7,494

Match: \$7,494

Event: Conference: Central Texas African American Family Support Conference

Date: February 8-9, 2017

Hotel: Palmer Event Center

City, State: Austin, Texas

Previously Funded: Yes: 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

Comments: The conference provides information and educational opportunities to consumers, families and the community about mental health, developmental and intellectual disabilities, chemical dependence, co-occurring disorders, and physical health issues.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Registration: 40 individuals (40 @ \$10.00/individual) = \$400.00

Lodging: 13 individuals (13 @ \$158/night for 1 day) = \$2,054.00

Meals: 40 individuals (40 @ \$55.00/day for 2 days) = \$4,400.00

Parking: 40 individuals (40 @ \$8.00/day for 2 days) = \$ 640.00

Total cost (federal): = \$7,494.00

Applicant match covers: lodging and travel:

Registration: 40 individuals (40 @ \$10.00/individual) = \$ 400.00

Meals: 40 individuals (40 @ \$55.00/day for 2 days) = \$4,400.00

Lodging: 13 individuals (13 @ \$158/night for 1 day) = \$2,054.00

Parking: 40 individuals (40 @ \$8.00/day for 2 days) = \$ 640.00

Total cost (match): = \$7,494.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=ou, email=beth.stalvey@todd.texas.gov, c=US
Date: 2016.11.14 12:57:25 -0600

Date: _____

Comments:

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 3

Date: 11/9/16

Organization: Austin Travis County Integral Care

City, State: Austin, TX

Federal: \$5,000

Match: \$5,000

Event: Conference: Central Texas African American Family Support Conference

Date: February 8-9, 2017

Hotel: Palmer Convention Center

City, State: Austin, Texas

Previously Funded: Yes: 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

Comments: The conference provides information and educational opportunities to consumers, families and the community about mental health, developmental and intellectual disabilities, chemical dependence, co-occurring disorders, and physical health issues.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Speaker: 1 individual (1 @ \$5,000, \$4,000 Speaker's Fee & \$1,000 travel, meals & lodging) = \$5,000.00

Total cost (federal): = \$5,000.00

Applicant match covers: additional speaker fees, travel and lodging expenses for additional speakers: Speaker: 1 individual = \$5,000.00

Total cost (match): = \$5,000.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=ca, email=beth.stalvey@todd.texas.gov, c=US
Date: 2016.11.10 08:43:16 -0600

Date: 11/10/16

Comments:

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 4

Date: 11/14/16

Organization: Organization: The Arc of Texas

City, State: Austin, TX

Federal: \$6,750

Match: \$3,150

Event: Conference: The Arc of Texas 24st Annual Inclusion Works Conference

Date: February 12-14, 2017

Hotel: Royal Sonesta Hotel

City, State: Houston, Texas

Previously Funded: 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Comments: The Inclusion Works! Conference provides learning opportunities for individuals, parents, educators and school administrators to improve skills in collaborating to educate students with intellectual and developmental disabilities and provides access to information, training and support for individuals and families in advocating and collaborating in the community Conference participants also receive information on research based best practices so that students may meet their education, employment and independence goals.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Lodging: 45 individuals (45 @ \$150.00/individual for 1 nights) = \$6,750.0

Total cost (federal): = \$6,750.00

Applicant match covers: registration expenses:

Registration: 30 individuals (30 @ \$105.00/individual) = \$3,150.00

Total cost (match): = \$3,150.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to the event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=ou, email=beth.stalvey@todd.texas.gov,
ou=US
Date: 2016.11.14 12:54:09 -0600

Date: 11/14/16

Comments:

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 5

Date: 11/22/16

Organization: Attention Deficit Disorders Association-Southern Region

City, State: Houston, TX

Federal: \$5,970

Match: \$1,172

Event: Conference: 29th Annual ADDA-SR Conference

Date: February 25, 2017

Hotel: Briarwood School

City, State: Houston, Texas

Previously Funded: Yes: 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1996, 1995

Comments: This conference is designed for those with ADHD, family members and those who impact the lives of these children and adults. Those with this and related disabilities will learn life skills, consumer empowerment and community integration skills to improve their quality of life.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Registration: 42 individuals (42 @ \$125.00/individual/day for 1 day) = \$ 5,250.00

Lodging: 20 individuals (20 @ \$74.00/night + \$12 tax double occupancy) = \$ 1,720.00

Total cost (federal): = \$6,970.00

Applicant match covers: registration fees:

Registration: 8 individuals (8 @ \$125.00/individual/day for 1 day) = \$ 1,000.00

Lodging: 2 individual (2 @ \$74.00/night + \$12 tax) = \$ 172.00

Total cost (match): = \$1,172.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to the event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=, email=beth.stalvey@tdd.texas.gov, c=US
Date: 2016.11.23 09:46:10 -0600

Date: 11-23-16

Comments:

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 6

Date: 11/28/16

Organization: Jewish Family Service

City, State: Houston, TX

Federal: \$7,500

Match: \$833

Event: Conference: UP Abilities: Gaming, Technology and ReelAbilities

Date: February 9-13, 2017

Location: February 9-13, 2017

City, State: Houston, Texas

Previously Funded: Yes: 2014, 2013

Comments: UP Abilities is the kick off event to ReelAbilities Houston Film and Arts Festival 2017. Jane McGonigal, as a world-renowned game designer, in particular, speaks to the potential of gaming technologies to help level the playing field for people with disabilities.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover: speaker fees, travel, meals and lodging:

Speaker Fee: 1 individual (1 @ \$7,000.00) = \$7,000.00

Speaker Travel, Meals & Lodging: 1 individual (1 @ \$500.00) = \$ 500.00

Total cost (federal): = \$7,500.00

Applicant match covers: speaker fees:

Speaker: 1 individual (1 @ \$833.00) = \$ 833.00

Total cost (match): = \$833.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to the event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

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DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=us, email=beth.stalvey@tdd.texas.gov, c=US
Date: 2016.11.30 23:17:45 -0600

Date: 11-30-2016

Comments:

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 7

Date: 12/20/16

Organization: Children's Disabilities Information Coalition (CDIC)

City, State: El Paso, TX

Federal: \$7,500

Match: \$7,553

Event: Conference: 28th Annual Children's Disabilities Symposium

Date: March 25, 2017

Hotel: ESC-Region 19 Head Start

City, State: El Paso, Texas

Previously Funded: Yes: 2016, 2015

Comments: The Symposium is an annual, daylong event where families, professionals, and experts in the various fields of interest discuss the latest information concerning children with disabilities in El Paso and the surrounding areas through various workshop presentations.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Registration: 300 individuals (300 @ \$15.00/individual/day for 1 day) = \$4,500.00

Meals: 462 individuals (462 @ 6.50/box lunch) = \$3,000.00

Total cost (federal): = \$7,500.00

Applicant match covers: rental, speaker fees:

Rental Fee for Symposium Space (\$5,500 for 1 day) = \$5,500.00

Keynote Speaker Fee: 1 individual (1 @ \$500.00 for 1 day) = \$ 500.00

Presenters: 23 sessions (23 x 1.50 hours = 34.5 hours @ \$45.00 per hour) = \$1,553.00

Total cost (match): = \$7,553.00

Recommendation:

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=cdic, email=beth.stalvey@edd.texas.gov, c=US
Date: 2016.12.21 15:10:00 -0600

Date: 12/21/16

Comments:

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 8

Date: 1/11/17

Organization: The Arc of Texas

City, State: Austin, TX

Federal: \$3,750

Match: \$450

Event: Conference: Legislative Advocacy Training and Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Date: April 6, 2017

Hotel:

City, State: Austin, Texas

Previously Funded: 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Comments: The Arc of Texas, along with the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, is hosting a legislative advocacy training and advocacy day at the Capitol in Austin to advocate for community-based services, better employment outcomes and higher attendant wages.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Travel: 50 individuals (50 @ \$75.00/individual) = \$3,750.00

Total cost (federal): = \$3,750.00

Applicant match covers: registration expenses:

Registration: 50 individuals (50 @ \$9.00/individual) = \$ 450.00

Total cost (match): = \$450.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to the event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no Beth Stalvey

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o, ou, email=beth.stalvey@todd.texas.gov,
c=US
Date: 2017.01.12 13:57:24 -0600

Date: 1-12-17

Comments: Co-Sponsoring with CTD and previously approved stipend for February conference

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS

Executive Director Review

ITEM: 9

Date: 1/11/17

Organization: Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

City, State: Austin, Texas

Federal: \$5,591

Match: \$650

Event: Conference: 37th Annual Convention

Date: April 5-7, 2017

Hotel: Hyatt Regency Austin & the Texas State Capitol

City, State: Austin, Texas

Previously Funded: Yes: 2015, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001

Comments: The 38th Annual Convention of the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD) will be held in Austin, Texas on April 5-7, 2017. This event provides an opportunity to focus our energy and effort in advocating for an increase in personal attendant wages to \$13.00 per hour, increase awareness of the cost effectiveness of community based services and the need to right size the costly outdated State Supported Living Centers. Self-advocates from all over the state will provide lived experience to educate legislators on the need for (and the importance of) personal attendants to address the current crisis in community care.

Considerations: The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Registration: 30 individuals (30 @ \$50.00/individual) = \$1,500.00

Lodging: 11 rooms (11 rooms @ \$141.00+19%) for 2 nights, double Occupancy) = \$3,691.00

Travel: 8 individuals (8 @ \$50.00/individual) = \$400.00

Total cost (federal): = \$5,591.00

Applicant match covers:

Personal Attendant Services: 50 hours (50 hours @ \$13.00/hr) = \$650.00

Total cost (match): = \$650.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to the event.

Approved: ☒ yes ☐ no **Beth Stalvey**

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o=ou, email=beth.stalvey@todd.txnwr.gov,
c=US
Date: 2017.01.12 14:02:43 -0600

Date: 1-12-17

Comments: Co-Sponsoring with the Arc of TX

TCDD Quarterly Council Meeting Council Member Attendance Report February 2016 to February 2015

Council Member	November 2016	August 2016	May 2016	February 2016	November 2015	August 2015	May 2015	February 2015
H. Adkins	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Present
K. Blackmon	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
K. Clark	Excused Absence	Excused Absence	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Excused Absence	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Excused Absence	Present	Present
G. Cortez	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
K. Cox	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
M. Delgado	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Excused Absence	Present
M. Durham	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Excused Absence Thursday Present Friday	Present	Present	Present	Present
S. Gersuk	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Excused Absence	Present	Present
R. Mason	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
S. McAvoy	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Present	Excused Absence

Council Member	November 2016	August 2016	May 2016	February 2016	November 2015	August 2015	May 2015	February 2015
M. Peace	Present	Present	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
D. Perry	Present	Excused Absence	Excused Absence	Present	Excused Absence	Excused Absence	Excused Absence	Present
B. Pharris	Excused Absence	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
D. Taylor	Present	Present	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
L. Taylor	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
J. Thomas	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Excused Absence
R. Tisch	Present	Present	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
DRT (AI)	Present Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Present
UT CDS	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Excused Absence Thursday Present Friday

Council Member	November 2016	August 2016	May 2016	February 2016	November 2015	August 2015	May 2015	February 2015
A&M CDD	Present	Present	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present
DADS	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
DARS	Present	Present	Present	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Present	Present	Present	Present
DSHS	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
HHSC	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present Thursday Excused Absence Friday	Present	Present	Present
TEA	Present	Present	Present	Present	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Excused Absence Thursday Present Friday

Background:

Grants Management Staff will review these reports:

- **Independent Audit Status Report** — summarizes the status of desk reviews of annual independent audits submitted to grantees.
- **Grants Risk Assessment of TCDD Projects & Quarterly Update Report** — summarizes the risk assessment matrix for considerations of continuation grant awards and provides more detail about monitoring activities for all TCDD funded projects.
- **Grants Monitoring** — activities reported below; a separate document will no longer be included. TCDD Grants Management staff conduct ongoing monitoring activities of each project. The following onsite reviews were conducted during the preceding quarter. Organizations showing “complete” have all documentation provided. Staff are still working with grantees to obtain all necessary documents for those showing “pending”.

Onsite Reviews for Quarter:

- Family to Family Network, Inc. (10/4/16) – Complete
- Texas Tech University Higher Education (11/15/16) – Pending
- Texas Tech University Project SEARCH (11/15/16) – Pending
- Education Service Center, Region 17 Families in Schools (11/16/16) – Pending
- Easter Seals Central Texas (11/21/16) – Pending
- Texas A&M University Higher Education (11/21/16) – Complete
- Educational Programs Inspiring Communities Enabling Technology (11/28/16) – Complete
- Strategic Education Solutions Enabling Technology (11/28/16) – Complete
- Paso del Norte Children’s Development Center (11/28/16) – Pending
- Volar Center for Independent Living (11/30/16) – Pending

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 7**Expected Action:**

The Executive Committee will review the information provided and may provide guidance to staff.

Council — Agenda Item 10. B.**Expected Action:**

The Council will receive a report on the Executive Committee discussion.

Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities Independent Audit Status Report

Grantee	Fiscal Year End	Date Received	Audit Firm	Exceptions Noted	Recommendations/Resolutions
Any Baby Can of San Antonio, Inc.	6/30/2016	11/10/2016	BDO USA, LLP	None.	None/Done.
Educational Programs Inspiring Communities, Inc.	12/31/2015	11/28/2016	McConnell & Jones LLP	None.	None/Done.
Region 17 ESC	8/31/2016	12/19/2016	Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss, LLP	None.	None/Done.

Key: Audits were submitted to TCDD during the fiscal year (October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016). Independent Audit Reports are due not later than nine months after the end of the grantee's fiscal year(s) for which an audit is performed. This document includes audits that were received after the due date, but during the fiscal year.

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

RISK ASSESSMENT OF TCDD PROJECTS QUARTERLY UPDATE JANUARY 2017

Number	Grantee	TCDD Fund Amount	Other Federal Fund Amount	Date of Last Onsite	Next Onsite Due By	Risk Activity	Risk Code
1.	Region 17 ESC (FIS)	\$300,000	\$1,687,806	11/16/16	2017	2	Extensive Risk
2.	Epilepsy Foundation of Texas (Health and Fitness)	\$250,000	\$390,600	5/27/16	2017	2	Extensive Risk
3.	Texas State Independent Living Council (Health and Fitness)	\$238,000	\$395,083	4/29/16	2017	2	Extensive Risk
4.	DARS (Higher Education)	\$225,000	\$488 million	12/15/15	2016	2	Extensive Risk
5.	Educational Programs Inspiring Communities, Inc. (Enabling Technology)	\$225,000	\$200,000	11/28/16	Does not apply	2	Extensive Risk
6.	Code Blue: Texas A&M University (Higher Education)	\$225,000	\$244 million	11/21/16	Does not apply	2,3	Extensive Risk
7.	Texas Tech University (Higher Education)	\$225,000	\$35million	11/15/16	Does not apply	2,3	Extensive Risk
8.	Strategic Education Solutions, LLC (Enabling Technology)	\$224,925	\$0	11/28/16	Does not apply	2	Extensive Risk
9.	National Disability Institute (Understanding Employment Options and Supports)	\$150,000	\$2,481,931 million	8/31/16	2017	1, 2, 7	Extensive Risk
10.	Volar Center for Independent Living (BC3)	\$150,000	\$203,823	11/30/16	2017	2,3	Extensive Risk
11.	Any Baby Can (Health and Fitness)	\$174,887	\$0	12/10/14	2017	2	Considerable Risk

Number	Grantee	TCDD Fund Amount	Other Federal Fund Amount	Date of Last Onsite	Next Onsite Due By	Risk Activity	Risk Code
12.	Texas Tech University (Project SEARCH)	\$174,346	\$35 million	11/15/16	Does not apply	2,3	Considerable Risk
13.	Code Blue: Sabine Valley Regional MHMR Center (dba Community Healthcare) (BC3)	\$139,440	\$4,663,336	2/11/2015	2017	2, 3, 5	Considerable Risk
14.	Imagine Enterprises (Project SPEAK)	\$125,000	\$725,000	12/3/15	Does not apply	2	Considerable Risk
15.	VSA Arts of Texas (Self-Advocates as Speakers)	\$125,000	\$10,000	10/26/15	Does not apply	2	Considerable Risk
16.	Code Blue: Texas Advocates (Self-Advocates Grassroots Community Organizing)	\$100,000	\$0	7/13/2015	2017	2, 5	Considerable Risk
17.	Texas State Independent Living Council (Accessible Transportation Summits)	\$150,000	\$520,587	7/19/16	2018	2	Considerable Risk
18.	Light and Salt Association (Culturally Appropriate Family Support)	\$75,000	\$448,606	1/26/16	2019	2	Moderate Risk
19.	Reaching Families Advocacy and Support Group (Culturally Appropriate Family Support)	\$79,606	\$0	4/21/16	2019	2	Moderate Risk
20.	Disability Rights Texas (Stakeholder Training on Guardianship Alternatives)	\$40,000	\$8 million	4/27/16	2018	2	Moderate Risk

Number	Grantee	TCDD Fund Amount	Other Federal Fund Amount	Date of Last Onsite	Next Onsite Due By	Risk Activity	Risk Code
21.	Paso del Norte Children's Development Center (Leadership Development and Advocacy Skills Training Project)	\$75,000	\$0	11/28/16	2018	1, 2	Moderate Risk
22.	Family to Family (Leadership Development and Advocacy Skills Training Project)	\$75,000	\$57,000	10/4/16	2018	1,2	Moderate Risk
23.	Easter Seals Central Texas (Leadership Development and Advocacy Skills Training Project)	\$64,394	\$5.7million	11/21/16	2018	1, 2	Moderate Risk
24.	EveryChild, Inc. (Developmental Disabilities Policy Fellows)	\$67,500	\$441,125	12/13/16	TBD	1, 2	Moderate Risk
25.							Low Risk
26.	Imagine Enterprises (Outreach and Development)	\$10,000	\$725,000	Does not apply	Does not apply	Does not apply	Monitor and Accept
27.	Stipends	See stipend report in Tab 4 Financial Reports	Does not apply	Does not apply	Does not apply	Does not apply	Final Report Only

Color Coded Blue grantees indicate additional monitoring strategies this quarter.

*Increased risk due to the number of sub-awards and no previous audit.

Risk Color Coded Key

- RED** — Extensive Risk Management (all levels of control plus audit)
- YELLOW** — Considerable Risk Management (most levels of control plus independent review by CPA)
- GREEN** — Moderate Risk (operating, monitoring controls, agreed upon procedures engagement by CPA)
- GRAY** — Low Risk (basic monitoring only)
- WHITE** — Monitor or Accept

Risk Activities Numbers Key

- 1 – New Grantee
- 2 – Awards within Award
- 3 – Funding Issues
- 4 – Compliance Issues
- 5 – Performance Issues
- 6 – Legal Actions
- 7 – Fiscal Office Out of State
- 8 – No Prior Audit

TCDD Risk Matrix for Grants Monitoring Fiscal Year 2016

Risk Activities	Less than \$75,999 Award Amount	\$76,000 to \$199,999 Award Amount	\$200,000 to \$499,999 Award Amount	\$500,000 Plus Award Amount
1. New Grantee (i.e., no previous project or no project within 2 year period)	LH	MH	HH	HH
2. Awards within Award (e.g., consultants, presenters, sub-contractors, etc.)	LH	MH	HH	HH
3. Funding Issues (e.g., budget/procurement concerns, match, sustainability, etc.)	LM	LM	MM	HM
4. Compliance Issues (e.g., OMB, UGMS, TCDD policy, oversight issues, etc.)	LM	LM	MM	HM
5. Performance Issues (e.g., unmet goals, milestones, special conditions, etc.)	LM	LM	MM	HM
6. Legal Actions	LL	LL	ML	HL
7. Fiscal Office Located Out-Of-State	LL	LL	ML	HL
8. No Audit Prior To Grant Award	LL	LL	ML	HL

Risk Matrix Color Coded Key: 1st letter denotes impact; 2nd letter denotes probability.

HM, HH — Extensive Risk (all levels of control plus audit)

MM, MH, HL — Considerable Risk (most levels of control plus independent review by CPA)

LH, ML — Moderate Risk (operating/monitoring controls plus agreed upon procedures by CPA)

LL, LM — Acceptable Risk (basic monitoring only)

Risk Management Plan Color Coded Key:

RED — Audit work performed and the Executive Director performs oversight via quarterly report* provided to ensure supervisory and operating controls are working.

YELLOW — Department heads reporting to Executive Director perform oversight functions to ensure supervisory and operating controls are working.

GREEN — Department staff perform oversight functions to ensure supervisory and operating controls are working.

GRAY — Department staff perform basic oversight functions to ensure controls are in place.

Annual Audit or Review Determination Color Coded Key:

RED — Red indicates areas to be audited or reviewed by independent CPA.

YELLOW — Yellow indicates areas to be covered through oversight, supervisory and operating controls with guidance from the contracted internal audit services provider.

GREEN — Green indicates areas to be covered through staff oversight with guidance from the contracted internal audit services provider as needed.

GRAY — Gray indicates areas to be covered through basic staff oversight and reporting.

Grants Monitoring Exceptions Report provided to E.D. and Council quarterly for review. No risk activities means monitoring strategies will be performed at the lowest level under the award amount. NOTE: Risk Matrix reviewed annually with TCDD staff and Internal Auditor; updated when needed.

Monitoring Strategies Fiscal Year 2016

Stipends (\$7,500 or less):

Website instructions
Technical support (Budget Support Specialist)

Special Conditions (GMD letter)
Review FROE and other reports submitted

Mini-Grants (\$10,000 to \$24,999):

Orientation
Technical support (Senior Specialist)
RAR & Supplemental Report
RAR Documentation Review — Six Months

Program Performance Review — Six Months
Final Program Performance Report
Approvals (e.g., dissemination, etc.)

Level 1 — GRAY

Orientation
Onsite Review — Initial
Program Performance Review — Annual
RAR Documentation Review
Approvals (e.g., equipment, travel, speakers, etc.)

Project Advisory Committee Meetings
Final Program Performance Report
Other as determined necessary (e.g., audit desk review)

Level 2 — GREEN

Orientation
Onsite Review — Initial and 3rd year
Program Performance Review — Quarterly
RAR Documentation Review
Approvals (e.g., equipment, travel, speakers, etc.)

Project Advisory Committee Meetings
Final Program Performance Report
Agreed upon Procedures Engagements CPA
Other as determined necessary (e.g., audit desk review)

Level 3 — YELLOW

Orientation
Onsite Review — Initial, 3rd and 5th years
Program Performance Review — Quarterly
RAR Documentation Review
Approvals (e.g., equipment, travel, speakers, etc.)
Project Advisory Committee Meeting

Final Program Performance Report
Independent Review by CPA — Annual (A-133 Audit at \$500k or more)
Project Staff Meeting (1 time per year)
Other as determined necessary (e.g., audit desk review)

Level 4 — RED

Orientation
Onsite Review — Initial and Annual
Program Performance Review — Quarterly
RAR Documentation Review
Approvals (e.g., equipment, travel, speakers, etc.)
Project Advisory Committee Meetings

Final Program Performance Report
A-133 Audit — Annual (Independent under \$500k)
Audit Desk Review — Annual
Project Staff Meeting (2 times per year)
Interim Program Performance Report

Additional Monitoring Strategies for Grant Projects

To be selected and implemented on an as needed basis:

- Re-orientation,
- Add milestones or special conditions,
- Move up to the next level of monitoring (see above tables),
- Payment holds (reimbursement only no advance or no reimbursement and no advance),
- Require additional onsite reviews.

Background:

The **Quarterly Financial Report** is included for review by the Executive Committee and Council and includes the following information:

- **FY 2017 Expense Budget** – This report compares the approved annual budget for fiscal year 2017 (Oct. 1, 2016, thru Sept. 30, 2017) to actual dollars spent and the balance to date. The balance shows that money spent is within the approved annual budget adopted by Council. The Expense Report shows three months spent.
- **Summary of Funds FY 2015-2018** – The report summarizes funds budgeted from the federal award for each fiscal year and shows funds available per category and funds spent to date. The color coded categories on the summary correspond to the color coded pie chart, which shows the percent of each category spent to date relative to the federal award. A projected balance allows funds available to be used by Council for grants and projects.
- **Note:** Spent funds are tied to the federal fiscal year grant awarded to TCDD regardless of whether those funds are spent during the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year when they are available.
- **Current Grantees** – The current grantees represents projects scheduled to end in years 2017-2021.
- **Stipends Expenditures** – Provides a summary of funds awarded or expended for each stipend grant recipient, the number of individuals attending the conference or seminar who benefited from those stipend funds, and how many of those participants received TCDD stipend support previously from that organization. Provided is information for stipends for FY 2016 and FY2017.

Notes:

- The TCDD fiscal year is the federal fiscal year: October 1 through September 30.
- The DD Act allows two federal fiscal years for initial awards/assignment of funds, and allows three federal fiscal years for final expenditure/spending of funds.

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 8
Expected Action:

The Executive Committee will review the information provided and may provide guidance to staff.

Council — Agenda Item 10. D.
Expected Action:

The Council will receive a report on Executive Committee discussion.

TCDD FY 17 Admin and Expense Budget — October 1, 2016 thru December 31, 2016

Expenses (Council Operations)	Yearly Budget	3 Months Expended	Balance - 9 Months Remaining
Personnel (17 FTEs)	no data	no data	no data
Salaries	\$1,123,791	\$257,609	\$866,182
Benefits	\$400,971	\$84,907	\$316,064
Total Personnel	\$1,524,762	\$342,517	\$1,182,245
Operating	no data	no data	no data
Professional Services ¹	\$80,462	\$11,307	\$69,155
Out-of-State Travel ²	\$21,500	\$206	\$21,294
In-State Travel ³	\$60,750	\$12,276	\$48,474
Supplies	\$12,000	\$4,145	\$7,855
Utilities	\$32,000	\$5,612	\$26,388
Rent, Building, Space	\$69,989	\$14,152	\$55,837
Rent, Computers, Equip ⁴	\$40,000	\$8,096	\$31,904
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other OE ⁵	\$117,317	\$36,346	\$80,971
Total Operating	\$434,018	\$92,140	\$341,878
Total Expenses	Budget	Actual	Balance
no data	\$1,958,780	\$434,656	\$1,524,124
Admin Reim to TEA	\$50,000	22.2%	no data
TOTAL	\$2,008,780	\$484,656	no data

Notes:

1) Auditor: \$37,700/\$9,675; CPA Desk Reviews: \$9,000/\$750; Legal Services: \$3,000/\$0; Web Hosting: \$1,800/\$300; Data Center Services: \$0/\$582; Other Professional Services: \$15,000/\$9,410; Reviewers: \$3,000/\$0; DD Suite: \$0/\$5,000.

2) Travel: Out-of-State Council: \$10,560 /\$0; Out-of-State Staff: \$10,940 /\$206.

3) Travel: In-State Council: \$38,750 /\$8,189; In-State Staff: \$22,000 /\$4,087.

4) Computer lease: \$9,000/\$741; AV Equipment: \$26,464/\$6,583; Copier: \$4,536/\$756.

5) Other OE: NACDD Dues: \$20,500/\$20,625; Interpreter services, registration fees, other training, maintenance, advertising, postage, printing, software, furniture, non-cap equip, security, and janitorial services: \$96,692.

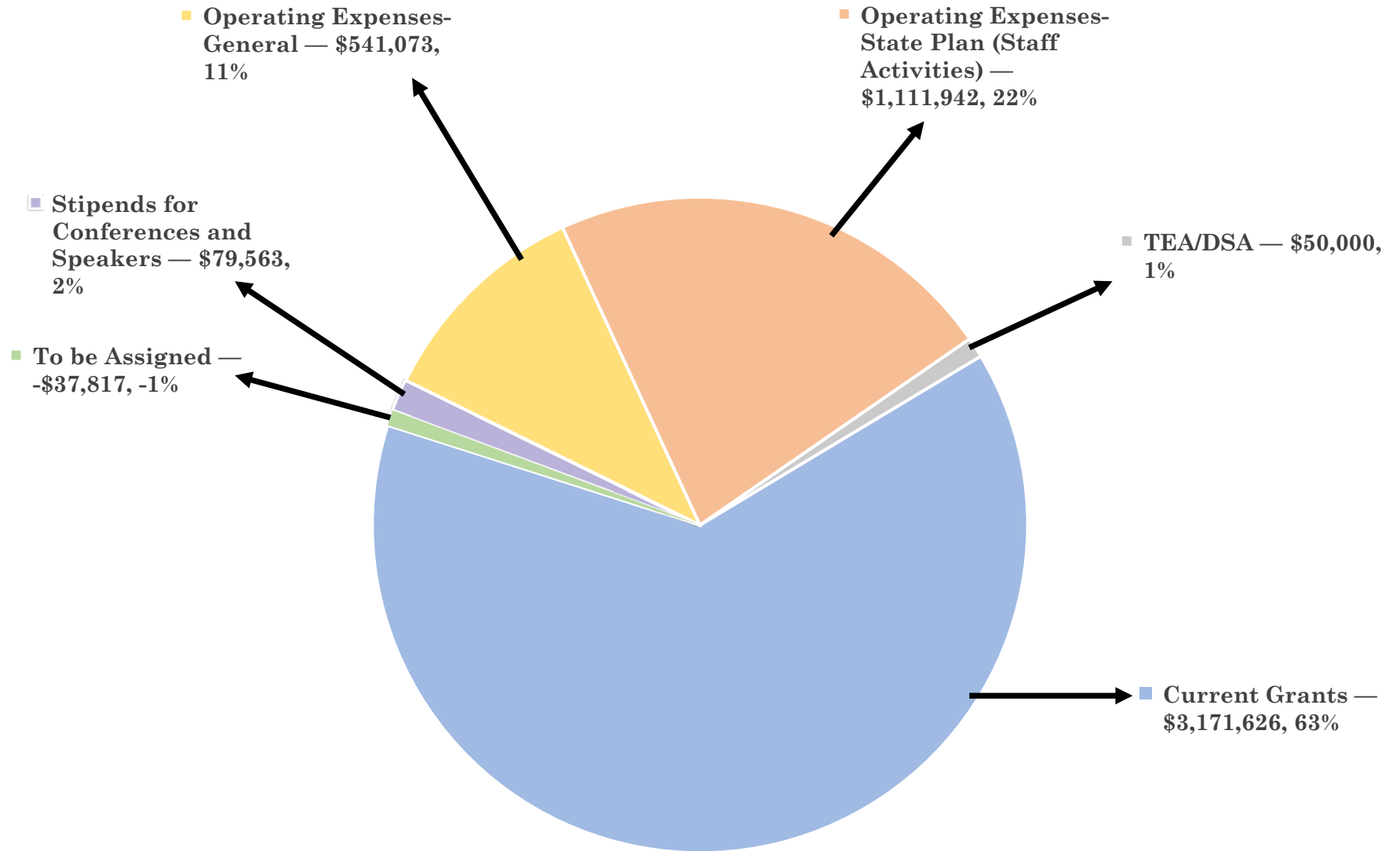
TCDD Summary of Funds Fiscal Years 2015 to 2018 through January 2017

Fiscal Year and Award Period	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2016	Projected Fiscal Year 2017	Projected Fiscal Year 2018
(2 years to assign to grantees; 3 years to spend)	10/1/2013 to 9/30/2016	10/1/2014 to 9/30/2017	10/1/2015 to 9/30/2018	10/1/2016 to 9/30/2019
Federal Award:	\$4,742,116	\$4,916,387	\$4,767,409 ¹	\$4,767,409
Operating Expenses: Council Approved Operating Budget ²	\$1,646,128	\$1,803,464	\$1,958,780 ¹	\$2,009,200
Operating Expenses: Actual General ²	\$516,779	\$541,073	\$126,317	\$0
Operating Expenses: State Plan (Staff Activities) ³	\$1,017,468	\$1,111,942	\$287,714	\$0
Total Operating Expenses Expended:	\$1,534,247	\$1,653,015	\$414,031	\$0
TEA/DSA: Administrative Cost to TEA/DSA	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Grants: Funds Available for Grants	\$2,998,344	\$3,082,372	\$2,633,629	\$2,583,209
Grants: Current Grants	\$2,998,334	\$3,171,626	\$2,267,626	\$1,745,616
Stipends: Funds Available for Stipends and Translation Services (\$25,000)	\$75,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Stipends: Current Stipends	\$60,830	\$79,563	\$0	\$0
Planned Projects: Executive Summaries (see priority list) ⁴	\$0	\$0	\$614,900	\$830,000
To Be Assigned: Balance to assign to grants or give back ⁵	\$0 Assign by 9/30/16 Spend by 9/30/2017	-\$37,817 Assign by 9/30/17 Spend by 9/30/2018	-\$161,714 Assign by 9/30/18 Spend by 9/30/2019	-\$29,121 Assign by 9/30/19 Spend by 9/30/2020

Notes:

- 1) Fiscal Year 2017 award is a projected amount.
- 2) Operating Expenses: General is 16% of Total Personnel plus Total Operating Expenses (See Fiscal Year 2016 Admin and Expense Budget report in TAB 4).
- 3) Operating Expenses: State Plan (Staff Activities) is 84% of Total Personnel (See Fiscal Year 2016 Admin and Expense Budget report in TAB 4).
- 4) See Priority List for Planned Projects and Amounts.
- 5) Funds to be reassigned or returned to AIDD.
- 6) Numbers in **color-coded blue** represent projected numbers.

Fiscal Year 2016 Funds Spent and To Be Spent



CURRENT GRANTEES

Grantee Name	Project Period	Year of Project	Project Title	Awarded Amount	Expended Amount	Remaining Balance
Jason Sabo dba Frontera	1/3/2017 - 2/10/2017	1 of 1	Consultant (Contract)	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Texas Tech University	10/1/2011 - 2/28/2017	5 of 5	Higher Education-1	\$222,924	\$120,724	\$102,200
Any Baby Can of San Antonio, Inc	3/1/2012 - 2/28/2017	5 of 5	Health & Fitness-1	\$131,165	\$63,577	\$67,588
Strategic Education Solutions, LLC	4/1/2012 - 3/31/2017	5 of 5	Enabling Technology-2	\$224,465	\$74,925	\$149,540
Educational Programs Inspiring Communities, Inc.	4/1/2012 - 3/31/2017	5 of 5	Enabling Technology-1	\$225,000	\$110,426	\$114,574
Texas State Independent Living Council	4/1/2012 - 3/31/2017	5 of 5	Health & Fitness-3	\$230,000	\$102,909	\$127,091
Epilepsy Foundation Texas	4/1/2012 - 3/31/2017	5 of 5	Health & Fitness-2	\$250,000	\$52,038	\$197,962
Texas Workforce Commission (formerly DARS)*	9/1/2016 - 4/30/2017	5 of 5	Higher Education-3	\$194,840	\$0	\$194,840
Imagine Enterprises Inc	5/1/2013 - 4/30/2017	4 of 4	Self-Advocacy as Speakers-2	\$125,000	\$63,400	\$61,600
VSA Arts of Texas	5/1/2013 - 4/30/2017	4 of 4	Self-Advocacy as Speakers-1	\$125,000	\$60,440	\$64,560
Texas Center for Disability Studies	9/1/2015 - 8/31/2017	2 of 2	Support for Advisory Committee Member Travel	\$39,070	\$2,903	\$36,167
Texas Tech University	10/1/2012 - 9/30/2017	5 of 5	Project SEARCH	\$174,656	\$2,550	\$172,106
Imagine Enterprises Inc	10/1/2016 - 9/30/2017	1 of 1	Outreach & Development-16	\$10,000	\$1,520	\$8,480
no data	no data	no data	Subtotal 2017	\$1,954,120	\$655,412	\$1,298,708
Texas Advocates	4/1/2015 – 3/31/2018	1 of 3	Self Advocate Community Organizing	\$100,000	\$98,862	\$1,138
Region 17 ESC	6/1/2013 – 5/31/2018	4 of 5	Families in Schools	\$300,000	\$4,215	\$295,785
National Disability Institute	6/1/2016 – 5/31/2018	1 of 2	Understanding Employment Options and Support Training	\$150,000	\$11,398	\$138,602
Texas Advocates	4/1/2015 - 3/31/2018	2 of 3	Self Advocate Community Organizing	\$100,000	\$19,533	\$80,467

Grantee Name	Project Period	Year of Project	Project Title	Awarded Amount	Expended Amount	Remaining Balance
Region 17 ESC	6/1/2013 - 5/31/2018	4 of 5	Families in Schools	\$300,000	\$63,501	\$236,499
National Disability Institute	6/1/2016 - 5/31/2018	1 of 2	Understanding Employment Options & Support Training	\$150,000	\$21,972	\$128,028
Austin Ribbon & Computer Supplies Inc.	9/1/2015 - 8/31/2018	2 of 3	Targeted Online Training (Contract)	\$10,500	\$0	\$10,500
EveryChild, Inc.	10/1/2016 - 9/30/2018	1 of 2	Developmental Disabilities Policy Fellows-3	\$67,500	\$356	\$67,144
no data	no data	no data	Subtotal 2018	\$628,000	\$105,362	\$522,638
Disability Rights Texas	2/1/2016 - 1/31/2019	1 of 3	Stakeholder Training on Guardianship Alternatives	\$40,000	\$13,776	\$26,224
Community Healthcore	9/1/2014 - 7/31/2019	4 of 5	Building Community Capacity through Collaboration Projects-2	\$131,882	\$0	\$131,882
Volar Center for Independent Living	10/1/2014 - 9/30/2019	4 of 5	Building Community Capacity through Collaboration Projects-3	\$150,000	\$18,285	\$131,715
Light & Salt Association	11/1/2015 - 10/31/2019	2 of 4	Culturally Appropriate Family Supports-1	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
no data	no data	no data	SUBTOTAL-2019	\$396,882	\$32,061	\$364,821
Reaching Families Advocacy and Support Group	2/1/2016 - 1/31/2020	1 of 4	Culturally Appropriate Family Supports-2	\$70,606	\$55,317	\$15,289
no data	no data	no data	Subtotal 2020	\$70,606	\$55,317	\$15,289
Texas State Independent Living Council	6/1/2016 - 5/31/2021	1 of 5	Accessible Transportation Project	\$150,000	\$61,770	\$88,230
Family to Family Network Inc	8/1/2016 - 7/31/2021	1 of 5	Leadership Development & Advocacy Trng-2	\$75,000	\$15,693	\$59,307
Paso del Norte Children's Development Center	9/1/2016 - 8/31/2021	1 of 5	Leadership Development & Advocacy Trng-1	\$75,000	\$3,228	\$71,772
Easter Seals	9/1/2016 - 8/31/2021	1 of 5	Leadership Development & Advocacy Trng-3	\$64,394	\$8,405	\$55,989
Johnson Applied Solutions, LLC	9/1/2016 - 8/31/2021	1 of 5	Partners in Policymaking (Contract)	\$150,000	\$21,022	\$128,978
no data	no data	no data	Subtotal 2021:	\$514,394	\$110,118	\$404,276
no data	no data	no data	Grand Totals:	\$3,564,002	\$958,270	\$2,605,732

*DARS project transferred to TX Workforce Commission (TWC) as of 9/1/16.

Stipend Expenditures

Fiscal Year End 9-30-16 Organizations	Event Month	Expended	People Served	People Previously Served	Speakers
Volar Center for Independent Living	October 2015	\$6,000	55	18	No
Volar Center for Independent Living	October 2015	\$6,000	0	0	No
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities	November 2015	\$1,330	46	0	Yes
Texas Center for Disability Studies	November 2015	\$1,400	5	0	No
ADDA-SR	February 2016	\$5,970	51	0	No
Austin Travis County Integral Care	February 2016	\$6,000	3	0	Yes
Austin Travis County Integral Care	February 2016	\$6,000	24	7	No
The Arc of Texas	February 2016	\$4,200	37	4	No
Children's Disabilities Information Coalition	March 2016	\$2,000	5	0	No
Family to Family Network Inc	March 2016	\$3,930	131	0	No
Texas State Independent Living Council	April 2016	\$6,000	23	9	No
Texas Parent to Parent	June 2016	\$6,000	38	9	No
American Association on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Texas Chapter (AAIDD- TX)	July 2016	\$3,660	9	3	No
Texas Advocates	August 2016	\$5,950	50	0	No
Down Syndrome Diagnosis Network (DSDN)	September 2016	\$2,471	3	0	No
Providers Alliance for Community Services of Texas (PACSTX)	September 2016	\$7,500	5	0	Yes
The Texas Tribune	September 2016	\$4,282	5	1	No
Totals:	no data	\$78,693	490	51	no data

Fiscal Year End 9-30-17 Organizations	Event Month	Expended	People Served	People Previously Served	Speakers
Helpful Interventions	October 2016	\$3,750	2	0	Yes
Helpful Interventions	October 2016	\$1,486	17	2	No
NAMI Texas	October 2016	\$1,875	10	0	No
Texas Center for Disability Studies	October 2016	\$4,000	1	0	Yes
Texas Center for Disability Studies	October 2016	\$0	0	0	No
The Arc of Greater Houston	November 2016	\$375	15	5	No
Family to Family Network Inc	January 2017	\$4,500	0	0	No
ADDA-SR	February 2017	\$6,970	0	0	No
Austin Travis County Integral Care	February 2017	\$5,000	0	0	Yes
Austin Travis County Integral Care	February 2017	\$7,494	0	0	No
The Arc of Texas	February 2017	\$6,750	0	0	No
Children's Disabilities Information Coalition	March 2017	\$7,500	0	0	No
Totals:	no data	\$49,700	45	7	no data

Background:

Applications were reviewed and an independent review panel was conducted in response to the Youth Leadership Development Request for Proposals. Eight (8) applications were received from the following organizations:

- SAFE Alliance
- Volar Center for Independent Living
- Mounting Horizons, Inc.
- Texas A&M University
- Educational Programs Inspiring Communities (EPIC)
- Imagine Enterprises
- VSA Arts of Texas
- Sign Shares, Inc.

Executive Committee members will receive an email prior to the meeting with the review panel comments. At the meeting, TCDD staff will review a checklist of review criteria for each application prior to Committee discussion.

Per TCDD procedure, staff reviewed and have offered comments on a proposal received for the following Request for Proposal:

- Outreach and Development – Kings and Queens Community Center

The Executive Committee will consider this information and make final decisions about these proposals to approve for final negotiations for these projects.

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 9**Expected Action:**

The Executive Committee will consider this information and make final decisions on the project proposals.

Council — Agenda Item 10. A.**Expected Action:**

The Council will receive a report on the Executive Committee decisions.

Consideration of Potential Review Panel Members

Tab 6

Background:

TCDD solicits, on an ongoing basis, qualified individuals who can serve on the Independent Review Panels that evaluate proposals received in response to Requests for Proposals (RFPs). In order to have a large enough pool of potential reviewers, a database of approved individuals is maintained. The Executive Committee reviews and approves individuals to be included in the reviewer pool at each meeting. Planning Director Joanna Cordry and Planning Specialist Danny Fikac will provide information about individuals who have recently submitted applications to be reviewers. This information includes names, areas of expertise, and cities of potential new reviewers. This information is provided behind this tab sheet.

The Executive Committee will be asked to make a final determination on the list of new potential reviewers.

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 10

Expected Action:

The Executive Committee will consider this information, and make a final determination on the pool of potential reviewers.

Council — Agenda Item 10. C.

Expected Action:

The Council will receive a report on the Executive Committee decisions.

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TO: Executive Committee
FROM: Danny Fikac, Planning Specialist
SUBJECT: Approving New Applications for RFP Review Panelists
DATE: February 8, 2017

TCDD staff received four new applications for new members of TCDD RFP Review Panel, and TCDD staff contacted a previous applicant for additional information. The memo includes the new applicants' name, location and qualifications. As TCDD develops new projects and moves forward with its new five-year plan, it is necessary to continue to add to the eligible panel members in order to have a diverse independent review panel with expertise in various subject matters.

Last Name	First Name	Home City	Qualifications
Haley	Mianne	Georgetown	<p>I am a parent of a 39-year-old special needs adult with ACC, PPD, Asperger's, Non-Verbal Learning Disorder Syndrome, and Bi-Polar with Rage Disorder.</p> <p>I've created a non-profit organization which addresses social and spiritual needs of the special needs community, and homeschooled for 17 years, taught other families' children, and continue to tutor children and special needs adults.</p> <p>My home has been a host home in the HCS waiver program for over 15 years.</p>
John	Morris	Edinburg	<p>I have worked on grants over the past 20 years as well as managed grant projects during my employment. I have reported to state and federal grants that I have had previously. I was on TCDD for 14 years and reviewed proposals for grantees while serving on the Project Development and the Executive Committee</p>
Ezeikel	Niemogha	Dallas	<p>I have 10 years' experience working with deaf & hard of hearing and am a member of Global Deaf Service Project.</p>

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Last Name	First Name	Home City	Qualifications
Hesma	Stephens	Richmond	I am a motivational speaker, trainer & consultant on topics related to safety, patient experience, employee conflicts and self-care. I have been the owner of a safety management and training company for 9 years. In addition, I am a member of the National Speakers Association Houston Chapter and a state advocate for children with special needs in the judicial system. I am the founder of Social Enhancement Exchange (SEE) project and Including Autism for those with communication disorders to improve social skills. I have a child (under the age of 18) with a severe disability.

There were two additional applications with incomplete information. Staff's efforts to contact the applicants were unsuccessful.

Background:

An initial summary of bills before the 85th Texas Legislature that may impact people with disabilities is included for your review. Updates to this list will be posted on the TCDD website as the session progresses.

Bill Tracking Lists on the TCDD website:

- Community Living Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-community-living/
- Education Bill Tracking — General and Assessments and Accountability — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-edu/
- Employment Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-emphied/
- Guardianship and Alternatives Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-guardianship/
- Healthcare Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-health/
- Housing Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-housing/
- Mental Health Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-mh/
- State Supported Living Center Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/state-supported-living-centers-bill-tracking/
- Transportation Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-transportation/
- Voting Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-voting/
- Miscellaneous Bill Tracking — tcdd.texas.gov/public-policy/legislative-bill-tracking/bill-track-misc/

Committee of the Whole — Agenda Item 3**Expected Action:**

The Committee will discuss strategies to address issues related to people with disabilities during the legislative session.

Project Development Committee Meeting Minutes	Tab 8
<p>Background: Minutes of the November 3, 2016, Project Development Committee meeting are included for your review.</p>	
<p>Project Development Committee — Agenda Item 3 Expected Action: The Committee will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.</p>	

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING November 3, 2016 — MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Gladys Cortez, Chair

Kimberly Blackmon

Mary Durham, Council Chair

Rachel Jew, DSHS

Jennifer Kaut, TWC

Scott McAvoy

Dana Perry

Ron Roberts, TEA

David Taylor

John Thomas

Rick Tisch

Committee Members Absent

Mateo Delgado

Guests Present

Isabel Evans

Ivy Goldstein, DSHS (alt.)

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive

Director

Martha Cantu

Joanna Cordry

Cynthia Ellison

Danny Fikac

Fernando Rodriguez

Joshua Ryf

Call To Order

The Project Development Committee met on Thursday, November 3, 2016, at the Sonesta Bee Cave – Austin, 12525 Bee Cave Parkway, Bee Cave, TX 78738. Chair Gladys Cortez called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM. A quorum was present.

1. **Introductions**

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. **Public Comments**

No public comments were offered.

3. **Consideration of Minutes**

The Committee reviewed minutes of the August 4, 2016, Project Development Committee meeting and noted the following three edits to be made:

- A. Rachel Jew, the DSHS representative, had not officially been named as the representative and had not received orientation in August. She was present, but should be designated as a guest in the August meeting minutes.
- B. On agenda item 7.B., the funding amount for the TCDD Policy Fellows project should be \$67,500.
- C. On agenda item 8, in the second sentence, the word “reminded” should be “remained.”

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the August 4, 2016, Project Development Committee with the listed corrections.

MADE BY: Rick Tisch

SECOND: John Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

4. **Chair's Remarks**

Chair Cortez made several announcements:

- A. Mateo Delgado has an excused absence and will not be able to attend the meeting. Cortez reminded members of the importance of attendance to maintain quorum and conduct Committee business.
- B. Members are invited to take advantage of additional training being offered at 4:00 PM to assist them to prepare for legislative visits in February 2017.
- C. Council Chair Mary Durheim and Executive Director Beth Stalvey have been in touch with staff from the Governor's Appointments Office and have offered input and assistance in addressing the vacant Council member positions as well as the positions with expired terms. Cortez updated the Committee on her participation in the 4th Annual Down Syndrome Awareness Walk in the Rio Grande Valley, noting that the walk raised over \$60,000 dollars for educational tools.

5. **Member Updates**

Rick Tisch attended the Lex Frieden Employment Awards in Houston in October and noted that the keynote speaker discussed the development and use of sign language in baseball.

6. **Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion**

The Committee discussed a handout on Disproportionalities and Disparities that provided background about TCDD's efforts to reach out to, include, and address the needs of people from cultural and ethnic minorities who are typically considered underserved and unserved. Committee members discussed TCDD sponsorship of a recent workshop called "Undoing Racism" that was presented by The People's Institute and attended by representatives of the Council, grantees, staff, and other TCDD stakeholders from around the state. The interactive workshop was intended to teach participants to analyze systematic racism and think strategically about TCDD's role in changing systems to address disproportionalities and disparities among Texans with disabilities; how to increase TCDD's understanding of the disproportionalities and disparities that exist for Texans with disabilities; and how to change the way the Council connects and includes all Texans with disabilities who are unserved and underserved. The Committee discussed the importance of having regular and consistent dialogue as an organization to identify action steps that can be taken to reduce disparities. Committee members shared resources that the Council may use to address these issues. The topic will be a regular item on Council and Committee meeting agendas.

7. **Staff Reports**

A. Status of New/Approved Projects

Grants Management Director Cynthia Ellison reported that the following projects started during the previous quarter:

- Leadership Development and Advocacy Training projects awarded to Easter Seals Central Texas, Family to Family and Paso del Norte.
- A TCDD Policy Fellows project awarded to EveryChild, Inc.
- An Outreach & Development project awarded to Imagine Enterprises in El Paso.

B. Projected Available Funds

Operations Director Martha Cantu reported that TCDD funds for FY 2015 were obligated as required. She noted that although the grants budget shows a negative balance for FY 2016 funds, staff members do not expect there to be issues with awarding grants as planned.

C. Other Updates

Communications Director Joshua Ryf noted that he, Rick Tisch, Lora Taylor, and Ruth Mason attended the Lex Frieden Employment Awards in Houston in October and networked with various attendees. As a result, the Independent Living Research Association has included a blog post about TCDD Request for Proposals on their website.

8. **Future Activities for State Plan Implementation**

A. State Plan Projects List

Planning Director Joanna Cordry presented and the Committee discussed the list of projects that must be developed to address goals and objectives in the state plan and provided the current status of the projects.

B. Executive Summaries

Texas Sibling Network

Planning Specialist Danny Fikac presented the Sibling Network Project Executive Summary. Through this project, TCDD intends to develop and/or grow a statewide network that increases opportunities for teen and adult siblings in Texas to connect, receive and share information that meets their needs; to develop leadership and advocacy skills; and to receive support to advocate for themselves and their siblings. The Texas Sibling Network would be required to include siblings from multiple cultural and ethnic groups across the state.

MOTION: To recommend approval of funding of up to \$85,000 per year for up to five years, for one Sibling Network Project as described in the Executive Summary.

MADE BY: Scott McAvoy

SECOND: John Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

9. **Future Project Funding Priorities**

The Committee reviewed and revised the current list of projects that have been approved for funding. The Higher Education Collaborative was removed from the list as the project has been awarded by the Executive Committee and staff are working on contract negotiations with the grantee. The previously approved Executive Summary for a Texas Sibling Network was added and the Partnership for African American Clergy to Support Families was removed from the list. These funds were intended to be used to support an activity led by the Hogg Foundation and are no longer needed for the activity. The Future Funding Priorities list is reorganized as listed below:

1. Translation Services
2. Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision Making DD Network Project
3. Texas Sibling Network
4. Support for Student Research-Related Expenses on Disability-Related Topics

5. Peer Support Specialists for Person Directed Planning

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the Future Project Funding Priorities list with the addition of the Texas Sibling Network project and with projects in the following order: (1) Translation Services, (2) Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision Making DD Network Project; (3) Texas Sibling Network; (4) Support for Student Research-Related Expenses on Disability-Related topics; (5) Peer Support for Person Directed Planning.

MADE BY: John Thomas

SECOND: Ron Roberts

The motion **passed** unanimously.

10. **Selection of TCDD Nominating Committee Member**

Chair Cortez explained the role of the Nominative Committee that is established each year to bring forward year to bring forward nominations for the Council Vice-Chair and Consumer Member-at-Large to serve on the Executive Committee. The Public Policy and Project Development Committee each recommend a Committee member to serve on the Nominating Committee and a third member is selected from the Council. David Taylor shared his experience of serving on the Committee in the previous year. Kimberly Blackmon was nominated and agreed to be the Project Development representative on the Committee.

MOTION: To recommend Kimberly Blackmon as the Project Development Committee representative on the Nominating Committee.

MADE BY: John Thomas

SECOND: David Taylor

The motion **passed** unanimously.

11. **Other Discussion Items**

The Committee noted that the February 2017 Council and Committee Meetings will be arranged so that members are able to meet with their legislators and/or their staff. Chair Cortez reminded members that Committee meetings will be shorter than usual. The Committee recommended extending an invitation for Jason Sabo with Frontera Strategies to speak at the February Committee of the Whole meeting as his past presentations have been helpful in preparing for legislative visits.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chair Cortez adjourned the meeting at 3:20 PM.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date

Background:

The Project Development Committee will discuss project ideas to implement the TCDD State Plan. The enclosed documents provide information to assist with that discussion.

- **State Plan Projects List** — The FY 2017 – FY 2021 State Plan requires specific projects to be implemented. This list is inclusive of projects that must be developed to address goals and objectives in the plan, and provides the current status of projects already addressed.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanna Cordry, Planning Director at (512) 437-5410 or joanna.cordry@tcdd.texas.gov

Project Development Committee — Agenda Item 8**Expected Action:**

The Project Development Committee will discuss the State Plan Projects List and provide guidance to staff for the development of new projects.

Council — Agenda Item 11. B.**Expected Action:**

The Council will receive a report on the Project Development Committee discussion.

State Plan Projects List

The following tables list State Plan Objectives for which projects remain to be implemented.

Projects Currently in Development

Objective number	Objective	Status
1.3	Develop at least five new programs that successfully support individuals with developmental disabilities to be included in post-secondary education.	Three almost completed; a project to create at least two more programs new programs is in the negotiation process.
1.4	Pilot at least one model that provides community-based, person-centered activities for people who are not employed and not in school.	Research being conducted by staff; not necessary to implement in FY17.
2.2	Collaborate with the Texas DD Network Partners to educate people about and increase the use of alternatives to guardianship.	Executive Summary approved.
3.1	Create a youth leadership training program.	8 applications received 11/30/16. Recommended proposals taken to Executive Committee 2/8/16.
3.1	Provide policy fellowships to train at least two people each year.	One Fellow funded. Request for Proposals for additional TCDD Fellows posted 9/3/16 but no applications received. Plan to repost Request for Proposals (RFP) for June 2017 due date.
3.1	Develop a plan and timeline to create a sibling network.	Executive Summary approved.
3.2	Support people with developmental disabilities to provide leadership development and advocacy skills training programs to people with developmental disabilities each year (community-based and institutional settings).	Executive Summary for Developmental Disabilities Peer Support Specialists (community-based) approved. Project to provide training to people institutions TBD.

Objectives Required to be Implemented Each Year

Objective number	Objective	Status
3.2	Support people with developmental disabilities to provide leadership development and advocacy training. (required objective)	Grassroots Community Organizing project in progress until 2018.
3.3	Collaborate with at least one statewide self-advocacy network to increase their capacity to pursue their mission. (required objective)	Continue to collaborate with Texas Advocates, but additional activities targeted to increasing their capacity needed.
3.1	Support the participation of people living in rural areas and people who self-identify as having a racial or ethnic minority background in TCDD leadership and advocacy projects. (required objective)	no data
3.4	Support self-advocates and family members to participate in cross-disability, culturally diverse leadership coalitions. (required objective)	Offer stipends to participate in statewide workgroups. May need new project in FY 2018.

Objectives that must be Implemented by Fiscal Year 2021

Objective number	Objective	Status
1.2	Create training and information for people who have developmental disabilities and families on financial literacy, SSI/SSDI and benefits.	One project in progress; one TBD
1.6	Pilot at least one program to provide community-based person-centered supports for people with complex medical and/or behavioral health needs, including mental health needs.	no data
1.8	Implement at least three projects to address specific needs of individuals with developmental disabilities who identify with a specific minority culture(s).	Two in progress. Outreach and Development RFP ongoing
1.9	Pilot at least one practice to address the needs of people with developmental disabilities who are aging and their caregivers.	no data
1.10	Pilot at least practice that supports organizations that serve the general public to improve how they include and are responsive to the needs of people with developmental disabilities.	
2.2	Collaborate with the DD Network Partners to promote the use of person-centered practices.	no data
2.3	Collaborate with at least three community-based organizations to reduce linguistic and cultural barriers experienced by individuals who are Spanish-speaking.	Possibly a staff activity.
3.1	Provide financial support for at least four general leadership development and advocacy skills training programs.	Three have started; one additional grantee to be selected.

Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities

FY 2017-2021 Five-Year State Plan Goals and Objectives

Goal 1:

Create and support promising practices that enable people with developmental disabilities to be fully included in their communities and to have control over their own lives by 9/30/2021.

Objective 1.1: Demonstrate at least three models that support people with disabilities to have employment of their choice by 9/31/2018.

- Texas Tech — Project SEARCH
- Educational Programs Inspiring Communities/HEART — Enabling Technology (Inventory Tracking System)
- Strategic Education Solutions — Enabling Technology (Web-based virtual job coach application)

Objective 1.2: Implement two programs to provide training and information to people who have developmental disabilities and their families on financial literacy, SSI/SSDI and health benefits by 1/1/2021.

- National Disability Institute (NDI) — Understanding Employment Options and Supports
- TBD — not necessary to be implemented in Year 1

Objective 1.3: Develop at least five new programs that demonstrate success at supporting individuals with developmental disabilities to be more fully included in post—secondary education by 5/31/2021.

- Texas Tech — Project CASE
- Texas A&M — Bridge to Career in Human Service
- DARS — Project HIRE
- Higher Education Collaborative — Texas A&M
- TBD

Objective 1.4: Pilot at least one new model that provides community—based person—centered activities for people with developmental disabilities who are not employed and not in school by 9/30/2021.

- TBD — not necessary to be implemented in Year 1

Objective 1.5: Demonstrate at least three new models that support individuals with disabilities to improve or maintain their health by 3/31/2018.

- Any Baby Can — Any Body Can
- Epilepsy Foundation — Get FIT Texas
- Statewide Independent Living Council — Getting Fit to Live, Work, and Play

Objective 1.6: Pilot at least one new community — based person — centered practice that ensures that people with complex medical and/or behavioral health needs, including mental health needs, receive appropriate and timely services by 9/30/2021.

- TBD — not necessary to be implemented in Year 1

Objective 1.7: Each year of the plan, provide support to stakeholders to participate in transportation planning activities that increase mobility and availability of accessible transportation.

- Statewide Independent Living Council — Transportation Works

Objective 1.8: Implement at least three projects that address specific needs of individuals with developmental disabilities who identify with a specific minority culture(s) by 9/30/2021.

- Light and Salt Association – Culturally Appropriate Family Supports
- Reaching Families Advocacy and Support Group – Culturally Appropriate Family Supports
- Outreach and Development (Grantees TBD)

Objective 1.9: Pilot at least one practice that addresses the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities who are aging, and their caregivers by 9/30/2021.

- TBD

Objective 1.10: Pilot at least one practice that supports organizations, agencies, groups, or individuals that provide services to the general public to fully include and be responsive to the needs of people with developmental disabilities by 9/30/2021.

- TBD

Goal 2:

Improve and/or expand community — based systems to better support people with developmental disabilities or families of children with developmental disabilities to be fully included in their communities by 9/30/2021.

Objective 2.1: Each year of the plan, promote systems that will sustain the policies and programs that demonstrate success in supporting people with developmental disabilities or families of people with developmental disabilities to be fully included in their communities.

Objective 2.2: Collaborate with the Texas Developmental Disabilities Network Partners

(the Center on Disability and Development at Texas A&M University, the Texas Center for Disability Studies at The University of Texas at Austin, and Disability Rights Texas) to promote person — centered practices and educate people with developmental disabilities and their families about, and increase the use of, alternatives to guardianship by 9/30/2021.

- Alternatives to Guardianship training project

Objective 2.3: Collaborate with at least three community — based organizations to reduce linguistic and cultural barriers that prevent individuals who are Spanish — speaking from receiving services by 9/30/2021.

- TBD – not necessary to be implemented in Year 1

Objective 2.4: Each year of the plan, advocate for legislative/policy change to improve educational outcomes and remove barriers to full-time or part-time employment for people with developmental disabilities.

Goal 3:

Increase the access that individuals with developmental disabilities and families of individuals with developmental disabilities have to information, training, and support to advocate for themselves and/or to collaborate with allies to impact public policy, service systems, and community supports.

Objective 3.1: Support at least nine leadership development and advocacy skills training programs for people with disabilities, family members of people with disabilities, and allies by 9/30/2021.

- Youth Leadership (grantee TBD)
- Youth Leadership (grantee TBD)
- Youth Leadership (grantee TBD)
- Family to Family- Leadership Development and Advocacy Training
- Paso Del Norte Children’s Center - Leadership Development and Advocacy Training
- Easter Seals Central Texas - Leadership Development and Advocacy Training
- Leadership Development and Advocacy Training (grantee TBD)
- Partners in Policymaking (contractor TBD)
- Support for people underserved or unserved - Leadership Development and Advocacy Training (grantees and activities TBD)
- Sibling Network
- TCDD Policy Fellowships

Objective 3.2: Support people with developmental disabilities to provide leadership development and advocacy skills training programs to people with developmental disabilities each year.

- Texas Advocates - Grassroots Community Organizing
- Self-Advocates as Mentors/Trainers to People in Institutions (grantee(s) TBD)
- Peer Support Specialist (grantee TBD)

Objective 3.3: Collaborate with at least one statewide self-advocacy organization run by people with developmental disabilities to create opportunities to increase their ability to strengthen their organization and pursue their mission by 9/30/2021.

- TBD

Objective 3.4: Support self-advocates and family members to participate in cross — disability, culturally diverse leadership coalitions each year.

- Stipends to support self-advocates and family members on boards and committees

Goal 4:

Ensure there is ongoing support and technical assistance for the Council to identify and engage in issues according to the Council's priorities and mission.

Objective 4.1: Each year of the plan, provide written and/or verbal public policy input on behalf of TCDD regarding issues that impact the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Objective 4.2: Each year of the plan, organize and conduct communications activities to increase connections to organizations and individuals.

Objective 4.3: Each year of the plan, evaluate and/or address opportunities to develop or incorporate new promising practices that would improve TCDD's ability to achieve the Council's mission.

Future Project Funding Priorities

Tab 10

Background:

The Project Development Committee will review this chart that includes all projects previously approved by the Council that have not yet been initiated. The Committee may recommend revisions to the priority order as determined appropriate.

Project Development Committee — Agenda Item 9

Expected Action:

The Project Development Committee will consider revisions to the Future Project Funding Priorities list.

Council — Agenda Item 7.

Expected Action:

The Council will consider recommendations from the Project Development Committee.

TCDD Future Funding Activities Priority List As of January 12, 2017

Number	Organization/Activity	Possible Projects	Funding “Up To”	Council Approved	Expected RFP Post	Expected Start	Expected End
N/A	Outreach & Development Projects 3.1 — Projects for up to 1 year	3 per year up to 4 years	\$10,000 per project	5/6/2016	2/1/2017	FY 2017	FY 2020
N/A	Outreach & Development Projects 3.2 — Projects for up to 1 year	2 per year up to 5 years	\$20,000 per project	5/6/2016	9/30/2017	FY 2018	FY 2022
N/A	Developmental Disability Policy Fellows Program — Projects for up to 2 years	2 per year up to 5 years	\$67,500 per project	8/5/2016	9/30/2016	FY 2017	FY 2022
N/A	Higher Education Collaborative — Projects up to 5 years	1	TBD	2/5/2016	3/25/2016	11/1/2016	10/31/2021
N/A	Youth Leadership Development — Projects up to 5 years	3	\$125,000 per year per project	5/6/2016	9/30/2016	4/1/2017	3/31/2022
1	Translation Services — Projects up to 3 years	1	\$25,000 per year	5/6/2016	TBD	TBD	TBD
2	Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision Making DD Network Project — Projects up to 5 years	1	TBD	2/5/2016	TBD	TBD	TBD
3	Texas Sibling Network — Projects up to 5 years	1	\$85,000 per project	11/4/2016	TBD	TBD	TBD

Number	Organization/Activity	Possible Projects	Funding “Up To”	Council Approved	Expected RFP Post	Expected Start	Expected End
4	Support for Student Research-Related Expenses on Disability-Related Topics — Projects up to 5 years	3	\$25,000 per year	11/7/2014	TBD	TBD	TBD
5	Peer Support Specialists for Person Directed Planning — Projects up to 4 years	1	Year 1 up to \$100K Year 2-4 up to \$125K	5/6/2016	TBD	TBD	TBD

Legend:

Blue text indicates: open RFP or Proposals received are under review at time of printing.

Yellow highlighted text indicates: proposals have been approved, awarded or project is in process of beginning since last Council meeting.

Background:

Minutes of the November 3, 2016, Public Policy Committee meeting are included for your review.

Public Policy Committee — Agenda Item 3

Expected Action:

The Committee will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING November 3, 2016 — DRAFT MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Lora Taylor, Committee Chair
Hunter Adkins
Patty Anderson, DRTx
Ruth Mason
Michael Peace
Amy Sharp, UT — CDS
Donnie Wilson, DADS
April Young, HHSC
Dan Zhang, A&M – CDD

Committee Members Absent

Kristine Clark
Stephen Gersuk
Brandon Pharris

Council Members Present

Mary Durheim, Council Chair

Guests Present

Justin Babineaux, DADS
Angela Biggs
Jan Brown
Carol Dold
Ted Johnson
Steve Kester
Amy Litzinger
Linda Litzinger
Karen MacKinnon
Alexandra Noble
Melinda Peet
Rona Statman

Staff Present

Ashley Ford
Linda Logan
Jessica Ramos
Meghan Regis
Beth Stalvey, Executive
Director

Call To Order

The Public Policy Committee convened on Thursday, November 3, 2016 in Colony Ballroom E at the Sonesta Bee Cave — Austin, 12525 Bee Cave Parkway, Bee Cave, TX 78738. Public Policy Committee Chair Lora Taylor called those present to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Introductions

Chair Taylor asked the Committee members, staff, and guests to introduce themselves and where they are from and to share what they are thankful for.

2. Public Comments

Public comment was deferred until later in the agenda.

3. Consideration of Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the August 4, 2016, Public Policy Committee meeting.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the August 4, 2016, Public Policy Committee meeting.

MADE BY: Hunter Adkins

SECOND: Michael Peace

The motion **passed** unanimously.

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Taylor reviewed absences and reported on the recent events that she attended, including an accessible parking hearing and the Lex Frieden Employment Awards hosted by the Governor's

Committee on People with Disabilities. Taylor thanked Hunter Adkins for providing testimony for the accessible parking hearing.

5. **Member Updates**

April Young notified the Committee that Nancy Walker, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) agency representative to the Council, retired and will no longer attend meetings. In addition, Young (HHSC alternate for Walker) will no longer represent the agency during council meetings due to the health and human services transformation and expects a new HHSC representative to be named by the February 2017 meeting.

6. **Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion**

The Committee discussed TCDD strategies to address disproportionality and disparities. Agency representatives shared tools and strategies their organizations use to increase responsiveness to the beliefs, interpersonal styles, attitudes, language, and behaviors of individuals who receive their services.

7. **TCDD Position Statement Review**

The Committee reviewed and recommended updates for the following Position Statements: Transportation, Criminal Justice, Right to Privacy, Service Coordination, and Education.

Chair Taylor presented the **Transportation Position Statement** and explained the purpose of the recommended revisions. The statement was edited for plain language and adds a data element about inadequate access to transportation.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the Transportation Position Statement as presented.

MADE BY: Hunter Adkins

SECOND: Michael Peace

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Chair Taylor presented the **Criminal Justice Position Statement** and explained the purpose of the recommended revisions. The statement was edited for plain language, adds a reference to state-supported living center admissions, recommends comprehensive law enforcement training, and clarifies competency proceedings and assessments.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the Criminal Justice Position Statement as presented with one edit to delete “and” from the last sentence of the first paragraph to read “People with intellectual disabilities are 4 to 10 times more likely to be victims of crime than those without disabilities.”

MADE BY: Michael Peace

SECOND: Hunter Adkins

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Chair Taylor presented the **Right to Privacy Position Statement** and explained the purpose of the recommended revisions. The statement was edited for plain language and adds Confidentiality of Information” to the title; defines “Privacy” in the first paragraph with reference to the fourth amendment; and adds a new sub bullet on identifying information.”

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the Right to Privacy Position Statement as presented.

MADE BY: Michael Peace

SECOND: Hunter Adkins

The motion **passed** without opposition. Donnie Wilson and April Young abstained.

Chair Taylor presented the **Service Coordination Position Statement** and explained the purpose of the recommended revisions. The statement was edited for plain language in addition to notable edits which emphasize person centered planning and meaningful, full community participation; clarify conflict of interest in service delivery and further define the responsibilities of the service coordinator.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the Service Coordination Position Statement as presented with three additional revisions:

- Replace “culturally competent” with “culturally appropriate” in the last sentence of the sixth paragraph.
- Delete “to participate” in the last sentence of the second paragraph.
- Delete “purpose of public benefits” in the first bullet in the eighth paragraph.

MADE BY: Michael Peace

SECOND: Hunter Adkins

The motion **passed** without opposition. Donnie Wilson and April Young abstained.

Chair Taylor presented the **Education Position Statement** and explained the purpose of the recommended revisions. The statement was edited for plain language and current terminology in addition to notable edits relating to the identification of students with disabilities teacher and service provider qualifications; the support of school-wide positive

behavioral interventions and supports and emphasis on full, meaningful inclusion of Texas students with disabilities.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the Education Position Statement as presented.

MADE BY: Ruth Mason

SECOND: Hunter Adkins

The motion **passed** unanimously.

8. Public Policy Staff Activities

The Committee received updates from staff regarding recent state policy issues and staff activities including the TCDD HHSC Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) summary, percentage of students in special education, TCDD's School Choice Issue Brief, and the Texans Care for Children's Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) brief. Committee members referenced binder and handout folder materials compiled by staff for each update.

Chair Taylor agreed to receive public comment at this point due to its relevance to the agenda item. Linda Litzinger, Public Policy Specialist for Texas Parent to Parent, offered public comment regarding ECI reporting. Litzinger commented that many ECI providers' annual financial reports do not accurately reflect their dire financial state due to administrative requirements that do not allow providers to report negative balances.

The Committee received updates from staff regarding State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs) including the Texas Public Policy Foundation's SSLC Issue Brief, TCDD's Criminal Justice Issue Brief regarding detained alleged offenders with IDD, and updates regarding the federal Supreme Court of the United States case, *Endrew v. Douglas County School District*, related to educational benefits and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Committee members referenced binder and handout folder materials compiled by staff for each update.

9. Selection of TCDD Nominating Committee Member

Chair Taylor asked for a nomination or a volunteer from the Public Policy Committee for a member of the Nominating Committee. Michael Peace nominated Hunter Adkins.

MOTION: To select committee member Hunter Adkins to serve as TCDD Nominating Committee Member for the Public Policy Committee.

MADE BY: Michael Peace

SECOND: Ruth Mason

The motion **passed** unanimously.

10. Other Discussion Items

The Committee received an update regarding the 85th Texas Legislature and upcoming legislative office visits in February.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Committee Chair Lora Taylor adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date

Background:

- **State Policy Activities** — TCDD staff will provide an update regarding recent state public policy staff activities. Discussion topics include:
 - **TCDD’s Priority Bill List (Located behind Tab 7)**
 - **TCDD Summary: Governor’s Committee on People with Disabilities Accessible Parking Report**
 - **Public Comment to Texas Workforce Commission regarding State Use Program**
- **State Supported Living Centers Update** — TCDD staff will provide an update regarding recent SSLC issues. Discussion topics include:
 - **Rider 21 Cost Comparison Report**
 - **Joint Public Comment to Department of Aging and Disability Services regarding Supported Decision-Making in SSLCs**
- **Federal Policy Activities**— TCDD staff will provide an update regarding recent federal public policy issues. Discussion topics include:
 - Letter from Department of Education to Congressman Doggett regarding Early Childhood Intervention Program Provider Withdrawal

Public Policy Committee — Agenda Item 7**Expected Action:**

The Committee will receive updates on these items and may make recommendations for consideration by the Council.

Council — Agenda Item 12. A.**Expected Action:**

The Council will receive a report on the Public Policy Committee discussion.



TCDD Summary: GCPD Interim Report: A Review of Accessible Parking for Persons with Disabilities

The Governor’s Committee on People with Disabilities (GCPD) released the 79-page “Interim Report: A Review of Accessible Parking for Persons with Disabilities” required by House Bill 1317 (84th Legislature) to provide information about relevant state and federal laws and regulatory requirements regarding parking for people with disabilities, including parking policies at the State Capitol and in state-owned parking lots.

GCPD gathered information from across the state, convening multi-agency meetings, contacting other states’ GCPD groups or equivalent organizations, conducting two online surveys, and soliciting public comments directly via email campaigns.

Background

“Accessible parking” refers to parking spaces reserved for drivers with disabilities that meet federally mandated standards for accessibility, as per the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The State of Texas outlines these specifications within the Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS):

- Signage: the International Symbol of Accessibility (ISA) must be mounted in front of the parking space at least five feet above the ground; van accessible spaces must include the designation “van accessible” on signage.
- Van Accessible Spaces: one van accessible space required for every six accessible spaces.
- Van Space Width: 11 feet required or eight feet permissible if adjacent accessible aisle is eight feet wide.

- Access Aisle: width of five feet for accessible car and van spaces and length equal to the full length of the parking space.

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation oversees the TAS standards for accessible parking in compliance with construction standards outlined in Title III of the ADA. The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles is responsible for issuing accessible parking placards and plates: blue placards and ISA license plates denote permanent disability while red placards represent temporary disabilities, which must be renewed every four years.

Major Findings

1. **Enforcement** was the top concern expressed in public hearings and survey responses. Lack of enforcement of existing parking laws was cited, as well as generally negative attitudes and inaction on the part of law enforcement and property owners in response to reported parking violations.
2. Survey respondents and public testimony also expressed widespread concerns about the **insufficient number** of accessible spaces. Almost four-fifths (79.4%) of survey respondents reported difficulty finding an accessible space at least once a week, with 40% reporting difficulty several times a week, and almost 20% reporting difficulty every day. 93% of the responses stated that finding an accessible space is so difficult because all accessible spaces are already occupied.
3. **Placard fraud and abuse** was widely reported to be responsible, in part, for the lack of accessible spaces for survey respondents and public hearing attendees. The report outlines generally, a lack of prosecution and investigation on placard fraud, as well as three types of unlawful parking fraud and abuse:
 - A. Someone without a disability using a vehicle with a specialty parking plate or placard belonging to a family member or friend with a disability;
 - B. ‘Grey market’ purchase and sale of parking placards online or through other means;
 - C. Forging or altering parking placards for use by a person without a disability.

Recommendations

1. **Strengthen Enforcement** language in the Texas Transportation Code § 681.010 to require enforcement action from all individuals with responsibilities to enforce accessible parking laws (change “may” to “shall”) and limit judicial discretion to curb repeated dismissal of citations.
2. **Control Placard Fraud** through the creation of a fraud and abuse task force, the requirement to surrender a placard after the death of a family member with a disability, administrative review of death records for placard cancellation [similar to

Connecticut's General Statute § 14-253a(o)] and the redesign of the placard to be more tamper-resistant.

3. **Develop Public Awareness Campaigns** on the importance of accessible parking for Texans with disabilities.
4. **Codify Person-First Language** in the Texas Transportation Code to change “Handicapped Parking” to “Accessible Parking” as per the state’s respectful language initiative (Texas Government Code, Chapter 392).
5. **Promote Volunteer Enforcement** by developing programs to recruit and train volunteers on reporting violations and improve enforcement statewide.
6. **Improve Capitol Complex Accessibility** by increasing the number of accessible spaces in targeted areas, constructing sheltered accessible drop-off stations, and creating a clear accessible parking map for the public.
7. **Permit Alternative Sentencing** for accessible parking violators by amending Transportation Code § 681.011, allowing courts to order disability awareness courses, as well as community service or restitution with a nonprofit service agency for people with disabilities [similar to Washington Rev. Code § 46.19.050(12)].
8. **Increase the Number of Van Accessible Spaces** by modifying the requirements of Texas Accessibility Standards for medical facilities to allow for angled and parking and shared aisles.
9. **Update Standards for Painting Spaces** by modifying Texas Accessibility Standards for marking spaces to include painting the ISA within the space and “No Parking” in adjacent access aisles (similar to New Mexico Statutes § 66-1-4-1.B and § 66-1-4-4.E).
10. **Update Parking Signs** to include required information on fines or penalties and consequences of parking illegally within the accessible spaces.
11. **Expand GCPD Authority** within the Human Resources Code, Title 7, Chapter 115.009 to allow GCPD to train law enforcement and volunteer parking enforcers, and to allow GCPD to collaborate on public awareness campaigns with other state agencies.
12. **Further Study on Veterans with Disabilities** to determine how state and federal laws can be aligned to ensure that veterans with mobility disabilities are eligible for accessible parking placards, rather than permitting accessible parking for veterans with disabilities that do not cause mobility issues.

6201 E. Oltorf, Suite 600, Austin, TX 78741-7509
TCDD@tcdd.texas.gov
tcdd.texas.gov(512) 437-5432
(800) 262-0334
(512) 437-5434Via email: TWCPolicyComments@twc.state.tx.us

December 21, 2016

TWC Policy Comments
Workforce Policy and Service DeliveryAttn.: Workforce Editing
101 East 15th Street
Room 440T
Austin, TX 78778

To Whom It May Concern:

**RE: Comments on Proposed New Rules, Texas Administrative Code, Title 40,
Social Services and Assistance, Part 20. Texas Workforce Commission, Chapter
806. Purchases of Products and Services from People with Disabilities,
Subchapters A-I, §§806.1-806.92**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed §§806.1-806.92, which implements the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 212 of the 84th Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2015), which abolished the Texas Council on Purchasing from People with Disabilities (the Council) and transferred all former Council powers and duties to the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) effective September 1, 2015. Also in accordance with SB 212, the rules of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts were transferred to TWC and placed in 40 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 806. Additionally the Council was replaced with an advisory committee appointed by TWC, the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Advisory Committee.

Please note that the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD) is represented on the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Advisory Committee. In the capacity of the TCDD representative, I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Edward Serna, TWC Deputy Commissioner, and he has proven receptive to comments concerning the rules and related standards.

Note also that a number of the following comments are made to increase the general accessibility of information that is contained in the rules.

Subchapter A. General Provisions Regarding Purchases of Products and Services from People with Disabilities

§806.1. General.

Recommendation: Please insert the word “competitive” as follows: “(1) further the state’s policy of encouraging and assisting individuals with disabilities to achieve maximum personal independence by engaging in useful productive **competitive** employment activities;” Please add the word “competitive” before each use of “employment” throughout all of the rules in Chapter 806.

Discussion: References are made throughout the rules to employment. In most cases, TCDD would recommend that the term “competitive employment” be used instead of simply “employment” to reinforce the importance TWC is placing on phasing out subminimum wage positions.

§806.2 Definitions

Recommendation: For purposes of accessibility, please clarify that “Agency” refers to the staff of the Texas Workforce Commission and “Commission” refers to the Texas Workforce Commission governing body comprising three commissioners.

Discussion: Because of the prominent role that the central nonprofit agency plays in the administration of the State Use Program, as well as the fact that the general public may not be attuned to differences between staff and the governing body of an agency, it would be helpful to make this clarification in simple terms in this rule. Referencing another rule in which definitions are contained is not helpful, and the definitions contained in §800.2 are not easily understandable.

Recommendation: In paragraph (2), please amend the definition of “Advisory Committee” to indicate the exact name of the committee, i.e., **the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Advisory Committee**.

Discussion: Given the numbers of advisory committees in state government, and the general inaccessibility of referenced laws for many people, this specificity would assist individuals in obtaining more information about the committee, its membership and meetings, and staff contacts on the internet or through the TWC switchboard.

Recommendation: In paragraph (5), the definition of “Community rehabilitation program (CRP)” uses the word “severe” to describe disabilities; this definition of CRP is statutory (Human Resources Code §122.002(3)).

- Please use the term “severe disability” consistent with statute wherever the term “disability” is used and define “severe disability” in this rule.
- **(10) Severe disability — A severe, chronic disability attributable to mental or physical impairment, or a combination of mental and physical impairments, that:**

- . (A) Is likely to continue indefinitely; and
- . (B) Results in substantial functional limitation in three or more of the major life activities.

- Please consider whether the term and definition of “disability” in paragraph (8) is needed, given that the statute prescribes that CRPs in the State Use Program should be serving people with “severe disabilities.” Inclusion of the term “disability” alone may contribute to confusion.

Discussion: The stated purpose of the State Use Program in statute (Human Resources Code §122.001, concerning Purpose) and in the proposed rule (§806.1, relating to General) is:

- To further the state’s policy of encouraging and assisting individuals with disabilities to achieve maximum personal independence by engaging in useful productive employment activities, and
- To provide state agencies, departments, and institutions and political subdivisions of the state with a method for achieving conformity with requirements of nondiscrimination and affirmative action in employment matters related to persons with disabilities.

It is evident from the 2016 State Use Program annual report that a significant number of CRPs are not in compliance with the following provision in proposed rules:

§806.41. Certification and Recertification of Community Rehabilitation Programs.

- (f) An applicant for certification must submit a completed application and the required documents to the Agency through the CNA for the state use program. Upon receipt, the CNA will verify the completeness and accuracy of the application. No application will be considered without the following documents:
- (9) Notarized statement that the CRP agrees to maintain compliance with the requirement **that at least 75 percent of the CRP's total hours of direct labor, for each contract, necessary to perform services or reform raw materials, assemble components, manufacture, prepare, process and/or package products will be performed by individuals with documented disabilities consistent with the definition set forth in this chapter**. If a CRP intends to seek a waiver from the 75 percent requirement of the CRP's total hours of direct labor for a contract, the waiver request must be submitted with the application for approval.

As the implementing entities for Chapter 122, the Commission and Agency will assist CRPs in complying with the law by providing clear definition of severe disability and using consistent terms throughout the subchapter.

Recommendation: In paragraph (10), please briefly indicate what “Texas Government Code, §2155.138 and §2155.069” are, e.g., “Texas Government Code, §2155.138, concerning exemption from bidding, and §2155.069, concerning testing and inspection of products...”

Discussion: The addition of these phrases is explanatory for individuals who may not be easily able to access the code.

Subchapter B. Advisory Committee Responsibilities, Meeting Guidelines

§806.21 Advisory Committee.

Recommendation: Concerning paragraphs (c)(2) and (3), please consider the following changes to language:

- (2) The average hourly wage earned by each ~~an~~ individual, with and without disabilities, participating in the program;
- (3) The average annual salary earned by each ~~an~~ individual, with and without disabilities, participating in the program;

Discussion: When the earnings of individuals with and without disabilities are conflated, both for average hourly wage and for average annual salary, essential information about differences in wages is lost. The resulting averages obscure the gap in wages paid to individuals with and without disabilities. The recommended language makes it clear that collection of averages must be done on an individual basis.

Recommendation: Concerning paragraph (c)(5), please change “an” to “each.”

Discussion: This is for purposes of clarity, as previously discussed.

Recommendation: Concerning paragraph (c)(6), please add “The number and percentage...” Also, in this paragraph and throughout this subsection, please clarify if the timeframe for data collection and reporting is annual.

Discussion: The percentage of individuals placed in competitive employment can have vastly different implications depending on the number of individuals that the percentage represents. For example, if 50% of 442 individuals with disabilities obtain competitive employment, that is a very different accomplishment than 50% of 100 individuals.

Recommendation: In paragraph (c)(7), please clarify “percentage of work performed.” Does this mean by each individual or by all individuals together? Is it quantified in time spent? Is it based on actual job performance or job description?

Discussion: As written, the paragraph refers to “work performed by individuals with disabilities...” In the aggregate, collection of this data will not reflect any given individual who spends 100% of work time on repackaging.

Recommendation: Please change subsection (d) as follows: “The Committee shall provide input to the Commission on rules ~~in adopting rules~~ applicable to the program...”

Discussion: Please note that the committee as a whole was not involved in providing input in the adoption of these rules. Given the possibility that it may be years before the rules are reopened for comment as a result of further legislation or sunset review, it is urged that committee participation in commenting on the rules not be represented as being limited only to those periods of time when they are proposed for public comment.

Recommendation: Regarding subsection (e), please add language as follows:

- (e) The Agency shall provide administrative support to the committee including accommodations and supports as needed by committee members who have disabilities.

Discussion: Individuals with disabilities can make significant contributions at meetings and can bring a perspective that might otherwise not be considered or understood. Some individuals with disabilities require accommodations or supports to meaningfully participate in meetings. These include assistive aids and technology, communication aids, coaching prior to a meeting (such as explaining the agenda, going over topics that will be discussed, or documenting areas of interest for which the individual has input), and support during a meeting (help explaining different topics, assistance with speaking at the meeting, help remembering areas of interest and delivering input) and travel assistance.

Recommendation: In subsection (f), please add explanatory phrase as follows: The Committee is not subject to Texas Government Code, Chapter 2110, concerning state agency advisory committees.

Discussion: As previously discussed, relating to accessibility.

Subchapter C. Central Nonprofit Agencies

§806.31. Contracting with Central Nonprofit Agencies.

Recommendation: Please add language to this section requiring the Agency to publicly post information provided in subsections (f) and (g) within 30 days of receipt.

Discussion: The State Use Program is a public program. Information related to the program should be made publicly available.

§806.32. Performance Standards and Goals for a Central Nonprofit Agency.

Recommendation: Please change the title of this section to “Performance Standards and Goals for the State Use Program.”

Discussion: Standards and goals should encompass all elements of the program.

Recommendation: Amend paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) as follows:

- (1) Increase competitive employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities **by requiring, and providing training for, the development of a person-centered plan including employment goals for each employed individual** ~~promoting employment counseling and placement services by~~ **every CRP**CRPs.
- (2) Increase **competitive** employment...

Discussion: Direct focus on achieving competitive employment through use of the person-centered plan. Suggest word search on employment to find all instances in which “competitive” could be inserted.

Recommendation: Amend paragraph (b)(3) to add “and conduct an annual customer needs assessment.”

Discussion: The contracts undertaken should support the identified needs of customers.

Recommendation: Delete paragraph (b)(4).

Discussion: The State Use Program does not need to be promoted given that its use is mandated in law.

Subchapter D. Community Rehabilitation Programs.

§806.41. Certification and Recertification of Community Rehabilitation Programs.

Recommendation: In subsection (d) delete the word “severe” and add the word “competitive” before “compensation.”

Discussion: “Severe” is not defined in the subchapter. “Competitive” is the emphasis.

Recommendation: Add the following language to paragraph (e)(2): ensure that documentation includes approved disability determination forms **completed and signed by a credentialed vocational rehabilitation counselor and signed by the employee who has been determined to have a disability** that shall be subject to review at the request of the Agency or the CAN under authority from the Commission...

Discussion: The current process allows for a determination of disability to be made in a number of ways and by a range of individuals of varying qualifications but does not require the individual being employed to be told of the determination.

Recommendation: Please expand paragraph (f)(8) as follows:

- (8) Copy of the wage exemption certificate (WH-228) if below minimum wages will be paid ~~to customers or~~ to individuals with disabilities who will be employed, **a plan to pay every individual minimum wage or higher before an application for**

recertification, and a statement of explanation of circumstances requiring subminimum wages **including the following**; ~~and~~

- (i) **The individual's person-centered employment plan;**
- (ii) **Evidence that the individual could not meet the goals on their person-centered employment plan;**
- (iii) **Evidence that the individual cannot do another job at minimum wage or higher;**
- (iv) **A plan to transition the individual to minimum wage or higher within one year;**
- (v) **A plan to provide, at prescribed intervals (every six months for the first year of the individual's subminimum wage employment and annually thereafter for the duration of such employment) career counseling, peer counseling, and information and referral services, designed to promote employment-related services and supports designed to enable the individual to explore, discover, experience, and attain competitive integrated employment, regardless of age; and**
- (vi) **For individuals 24 years of age or younger, documentation that the individual exercised all available services prior to being employed for less than minimum wage.**

Discussion: The additional language provides the context for having the exemption certificate and the steps being taken to eliminate its use.

Recommendation: Add new (n) and renumber the follow subsections:

- (n) A CRP shall promptly report to the Agency an instance of a state agency or organization using the State Use Program in a manner that does not meet its intended purpose to increase competitive integrated employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.**

Discussion: This requirement clarifies program focus and provides a means of enforcing it.

Subchapter F. Complaints, Vendor Protests, Resolutions

§806.61. Consumer Information; Complaints and Resolutions.

Recommendation: Please amend subsection (d) as follows.

- (d) The Agency shall create an accessible process for employees of the CRP to file a complaint in a way that protects the individual's privacy and keeps the individual safe from retaliation. The process shall be posted in plain view at each CRP and described to each employee in a way that is accessible to them. Each employee shall be provided with a copy of the complaint process upon hire. The Agency shall make public a detailed report of the complaints listed**

by type, frequency, and outcome no later than December 1 of each year. ~~The Agency shall provide to the individual filing the complaint, and to each individual who is a subject of a complaint, a copy of the Agency's policies and procedures relating to complaint investigation and resolution.~~

Discussion: The process by which a person with a disability can file a complaint should be more accessible.

Subchapter G. Disclosure of Records

§806.71. Records.

Recommendation: Amend (d) as follows.

(d) No records belonging to a CNA or a CRP may be accessed or released ~~to anyone~~ **except as authorized**, ~~including advisory committee members, outside entities, and individuals, unless disclosure is required~~ under the Texas Public Information Act.

Discussion: The determination of whether material can be released requires a close reading of the law. The law gives consideration to a much broader range of potential requestors than the rule as proposed anticipates. It is necessary to consult the law and not rely on this rule for guidance around the release of information.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on these important rules.

Sincerely,

Linda Logan, MPAff
Public Policy Specialist



DADS Rider 21 — Cost Comparison Report Summary

Setting	Cost	Average Monthly Cost Per Individual — FY 2013	Average Monthly Cost Per Individual — FY 2015	Percent Change FY 2013 to FY 2015
State Operated ICF-IID (State Supported Living Centers)	Long-term Care Costs	\$14,143.81	\$17,637.46	24.70%
State Operated ICF-IID (State Supported Living Centers)	Administrative / Overhead Costs	\$5,090.40	\$6,697.12	31.56%
	Total State Operated ICF-IID	\$19,234.21	\$24,334.58	26.52%
HCS Waiver — Residential	Long-Term Care Costs	\$5,116.89	\$5,170.80	1.05%
	Acute Care Costs	\$356.21	\$761.74	113.85%
HCS Waiver - Residential	Total HCS — Residential Costs	\$5,473.10	\$5,932.54	8.39%
HCS Waiver — All Settings	Long-Term Care Costs	\$3,472.29	\$3,522.26	1.44%
HCS Waiver — All Settings	Acute Care Costs	\$465.15	\$744.97	60.16%
	Total HCS — All Settings Costs	\$3,937.44	\$4,267.23	8.38%

Notes:

SSLCs include residential services, habilitation services, medical services, skills training, and adjunctive therapy services.

Medicaid reimbursed acute care services, such as hospitalization and doctor visits, provided to people in the HCS Waiver program are paid by HHSC. For SSLCs, these costs are covered in the per diem reimbursement rate.

HCS waiver acute services transferred from Fee For Service to Managed Care in FY 2015. This transition correlates with the increase in acute costs in the HCS waiver program.

**Average Dollars Paid by Month for HCS Waiver Services for People who
Transition from SSLCs**

Residence Type	Mean FY 2013	Number of People FY 2013	Mean FY 2015	Number of People FY 2015
Non-Residential	\$4,115.44	54	\$3,743.37	33
Residential	\$5,622.79	318	\$5,695.04	234
Total	\$5,403.98	372	\$5,453.82	267

**State Operated ICF-IID (SSLC) Comparison of Select Consumer Characteristics
— August 31, 2016**

Selected SSLC Consumer Characteristic	Number of People	% of Total People	Number of HCS Waivers	% of Total HCS Waivers
Level of Need 1: Intermittent	370	9.13%	9,060	30.67%
Level of Need 5: Limited	1,457	43.31%	12,737	43.12%
Level of Need 8: Extensive	1,076	31.99%	5,102	17.27%
Level of Need 6: Pervasive	508	15.10%	2,504	8.48%
Level of Need 9: Pervasive Plus	16	0.48%	138	0.47%
Total People	3,364	100.01%	29,541	100.01%
Selected Mental Health Diagnosis: Schizophrenia or Bipolar	no data	6.90%	no data	7.27%
Physical / Ambulatory Status: Ambulatory		64.77%		88.38%
Physical / Ambulatory Status: Non-Ambulatory	no data	33.41%	no data	10.97%

Date: January 19, 2017

Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (September 2014). Rider 23 Cost Comparison Report. Retrieved from https://www.dads.state.tx.us/news_info/budget/docs/riders/Rider23CostComparisonReport.pdf

Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (December 2016). Rider 21 Cost Comparison Report. December 2016. Retrieved from https://www.dads.state.tx.us/news_info/publications/legislative/rider21-cost-comparison-report-dec2016.pdf

Via Email: Julia.marsh-klepac@dads.state.tx.us

December 12, 2016

Julia Marsh-Klepac, Quality Assurance Manager
Department of Aging and Disability Services
701 West 51st Street
Austin, TX 78751

Re: Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Decision-Making Operational Policy

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities and Disability Rights Texas appreciate the opportunity to provide joint comments on the proposed changes to statewide operational policy number 019.1, Decision-Making (currently policy number 019, Guardianship) relating to the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) Guardianship Services Program. While our respective agencies welcome the addition of alternatives to guardianship within the Guardianship Services Program, our recommendations seek to strengthen access to supported-decision making agreements while clarifying that, consistent with recent legislative policy direction, guardianship should be an option of last resort. Our comments are intended to assist SSLCs in reducing reliance on guardianship and to emphasize alternatives to guardianship, as per the recent legislative direction codified within the Texas Estates Code, Chapter 1357. Supported Decision-Making Agreement Act. The recommendations outlined below seek to advance the values DADS holds related to dignity and choice in providing supports and services that enable individuals to retain or regain their right to make decisions and live without the need for a full or limited guardianship.

We respectfully submit the following comments:

Draft Policy # 019.1

- We suggest the following modifications to Definitions: Although statute is referenced in several definitions, key terms such as “Capacity,” “Legally adequate consent” and “Legally Authorized Representative (LAR)” have no reference to the law. We suggest using definitions lifted from the relevant statute, Texas Estates Code Title 3, Sec. 22.016. We have concerns that the definitions of “Capacity” and “Legally adequate consent” in particular go beyond the scope of the law and do not reflect the rights of an individual regarding the ability to provide consent until a court has ruled that a person is incapacitated.
- Regarding Section I. Determination of Support Needs, the current language does not clearly identify that the individual at the center of the determination is involved at each step of the process. In keeping with the person-centered provisions of the Supported Decision-Making Act, Texas Estates Code, Chapter 1357, efforts to

determine support needs should not impede the self-determination of the person [Texas Estates Code § 1357.002(3)]. The wishes of the person are not referenced in this process until section D., after the interdisciplinary team (IDT) has identified and documented supports needed by the individual. This process should be clarified by reiterating the individual's right to self-determination at the beginning of Section I. Determination of Support Needs.

- Regarding Section II. Coordination of Decision-Making Supports and Services and Guardianship Services, we have concerns generally that “decision-making supports and services” and “guardianship services” are grouped together without clear distinctions. We recommend separating these areas into two sections, with “decision-making supports and services” preceding “guardianship services” to emphasize that guardianship is an option of last resort. The content from Section III. Alternatives to Guardianship, should also be incorporated into the earlier section on “decision-making supports and services.”
- Also regarding Section II. Coordination of Decision-Making Supports and Services and Guardianship Services, we have multiple concerns with the listing of individuals determined to lack capacity as described in C. and D. It is not clear within the policy how these factors will be assessed for individuals, nor what the specific intent or purpose of this listing would be. In order to uphold individuals' rights and safeguard against subjectively identifying individuals merely suspected of lacking capacity, we recommend eliminating areas C. and D.
- Regarding Section III. Alternatives to Guardianship, we recommend including definitions and examples for each of the supports listed. As written, only two of the eight supports listed include definitions within the policy document.
- Regarding Section IV. Guardianship, we recommend broadly that the policy maximize independence and self-reliance by clearly delineating the circumstances under which a guardianship, particularly without a family member, would be necessary as per Texas Estates Code § 22.016 and § 1101.101. We recommend that DADS closely follow guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Justice and recent legislative direction concerning court-initiated guardians and guardianships generally. Rather than simply outlining the steps in order to proceed with the guardianship process, and particularly a court-initiated guardianship, we recommend additional language on less restrictive alternatives to guardianship (Texas Estates Code § 1002.0015 and § 1357.051) as well as clearly spelled out limitations to guardianship (including Texas Estates Code § 1001.001 and §1101.101).

Exhibit A

- We recommend changing the headings on the table included in Exhibit A. The heading “Things to Consider” is unclear and does not appear to relate to the content included within the row. We recommend including a definition of the term, as well as complete sentences that provide clear direction and explanations of each support and service.
- Under “Supports/Services” the term “Supported Decision Making Agreement” should be changed to “Supported Decision-Making Agreement” as per Texas Estates Code, Chapter 1357.

Exhibit C

- We recommend the addition of a letter similarly titled “Information on Becoming a Supporter” Letter, which would be addressed to a family member or other individual who may serve as a supporter for a person as part of a supported decision-making agreement. This informational letter should be sent **prior** to the letter as written in Exhibit C, which seeks to identify a potential guardian for a person said to have already attempted alternatives to guardianship.
- Regarding Exhibit C as written, “Information on Becoming a Guardian,” we recommend additional information on steps the SSLC may take (namely, that the SSLC may contact the court to proceed with obtaining a court-initiated guardianship) if a family member or friend is not able to serve as a person’s guardian. We further recommend that this letter be sent via certified mail, return receipt requested, in order to appropriately ensure receipt and documentation of the letter for purposes of the court.

Exhibit D

- We recommend that Exhibit D “Request Letter for a Court Initiated Guardianship” include **significantly more documentation** detailing attempts to contact a potential supporter, a potential guardian and all previous attempts made at less restrictive alternatives to guardianship. We are concerned that the letter as written contains only information which may be pulled from an individual’s intake information and may be abused. In order for the court to make an informed and ethical judgment concerning an individual’s capacity and need for a court-initiated guardianship, the SSLC should provide as much clear documentation as possible; including, but not limited to, times, dates, and methods of communication in contacting family members or friends, as well as copies of any and all correspondence related to attempts at less restrictive measures.

Exhibit E

- Regarding Exhibit E “Guardianship Status Update Letter,” we recommend including information for the contact information for the court, which may be helpful to the guardian receiving the notice. As the court will already be receiving a copy of this letter, including the court’s contact information should not be an additional burden for SSLC staff.
- Additionally, we recommend including language that would clarify potential next legal steps that the SSLC may pursue in coordination with the court, if documentation of guardianship renewal is not received. Any additional information on the role of the SSLC in contacting the court should include references to relevant statutes (including 40 TAC § 2.253 and § 4.105; Texas Estates Code, Title 3; and Texas Estates Code § 1357).

Thank you for your service to Texans with disabilities and for the opportunity to provide input on this important policy revision. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Meghan Regis, LMSW
Public Policy Specialist
Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
(512) 437-5435
meghan.regis@tcdd.texas.gov

Jeffrey S. Miller
Policy Specialist
Disability Rights Texas
(512) 407-2732
jmiller@drtx.org



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

DEC -9 2016

Congressman Lloyd Doggett
2307 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Doggett:

This letter is in response to your October 19, 2016 correspondence to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), in which you express concerns regarding the Texas Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) program under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Part C of the IDEA). Specifically, reduced State appropriations and reduced pediatric therapy reimbursement rates in Medicaid had led three ECI providers to withdraw from the ECI program. In your letter, you requested that our office work with the State to ensure that infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families have access to early intervention programs administered under Part C. We appreciate your concern and assure you that we have been working diligently with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC) ECI program to ensure that contracts are secured for the regions impacted and that infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families have access to the services to which they are entitled under Part C of the IDEA.

In an October 28, 2016 call with the Associate Commissioner of HHSC, we were informed that contracts with new service providers had been secured for regions previously served by the Emergence Health Network in El Paso and the North Texas Rehabilitation Center. On November 1, 2016 we were notified by HHSC that a contract had been secured for the Tyler area, previously served by the Andrews Center. In a follow-up call on December 2, 2016 we were notified by HHSC that there is the potential for eleven or twelve additional ECI providers to withdraw from the ECI program. In response to the December 2, 2016 call we are meeting with HHSC leadership in Austin Texas on December 15, 2016.

Thank you for your continued interest in this issue. We will continue to work with HHSC to ensure that early intervention services are made available to all eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. If you have any further concerns regarding this issue, please feel free to contact Lloyd Horwich in the Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs at 202-205-0490.

Sincerely,

Ruth E. Ryder
Acting Director
Office of Special Education Programs

400 MARYLAND AVE. S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202-2600

www.ed.gov

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

Background:

The Council will review the minutes from the November 4, 2016, Council meeting and the November 3, 2016, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Council — Agenda Item 3**Expected Action:**

The Council will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.

COUNCIL MEETING November 4, 2016 — MINUTES

Council Members Present

Mary Durham, Council Chair
Hunter Adkins
Zack Ahonle, UT-CDS
Kimberly Blackmon
Gladys Cortez
Ivy Goldstein, DSHS
Jennifer Kaut, DARS
Ruth Mason
Scott McAvoy
Michael Peace
Dana Perry
Ron Roberts, TEA
Lora Taylor
David Taylor
Rick Tisch
John Thomas
Donnie Wilson, DADS
April Young, HHSC
Dalun Zhang, A&M — CDD

Council Members Absent

Kristine Clark
Kristen Cox
Mateo Delgado
Stephen Gersuk
Mary Faithfull, DRT
Brandon Pharris

Guests Present

Angela Biggs
Isabel Evans
Daniel Graves, Weaver
Amy Sharp, UT-CDS

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive
Director
Martha Cantu
Joanna Cordry
Cynthia Ellison
Danny Fikac
Ashley Ford
Jessica Ramos
Meghan Regis
Joshua Ryf
Koren Vogel

Call To Order

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Friday, November 4, 2016, in the Colony C Ballroom of the Sonesta Bee Cave - Austin, 12525 Bee Cave Parkway, Bee Cave, TX 78738. Council Chair Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM.

1. Introductions

Council members, staff and guests were introduced. Amy Sharp, UT CDS was initially present but departed early in the meeting allowing alternate Zach Ahonle to represent that agency.

2. Public Comments

Angela Biggs offered comments on her daughter who is currently residing at a State Supported Living Center (SSLC) but has a referral for community placement. She noted her gratitude for services through Disability Rights Texas. She explained her daughter's dual diagnosis of I/DD and mental health issues and services needed for her support.

3. Consent Items

Chair Durham reviewed consent items including the minutes from the August 5, 2016, Council meeting and August 4, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting and the excused absences of Kristine Clark; Kristen Cox; Mateo Delgado; Stephen Gersuk; Mary Faithfull, DRT; and Brandon Pharris. Durham added that there is no news to report on new appointments.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the August 5, 2016 Council meeting and August 4, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting as well as the excused absences as noted.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Michael Peace

The motion **passed** without unanimously.

4. **Chair & Executive Director's Report**

Chair Durham reminded members that the February 2017 meetings will allow time for members to meet with their legislators and that business attire is requested for those meetings.

Executive Director Stalvey provided an update on TCDD staff to note that Meghan Regis began her position as a Public Policy Specialist on September 1, 2016. Interviews for the vacant Grants Management Specialist have been conducted and references are being checked for two finalists.

Stalvey reported the selection of Johnson Applied Solutions (JAS) as the contractor for the Partners in Policymaking (PIP) project. NACDD has also been awarded a grant from United Healthcare to provide technical assistance to implement Partners and support graduates.

Stalvey reported that Texas was not selected to receive the ACL Partnerships in Employment grant but will continue to work with Texas partners on employment goals.

The FY 2017 – FY 2021 State Plan was submitted on August 15, 2016. Stalvey expressed her gratitude to Planning Director Joanna Cordry and Planning Specialist Danny Fikac as well as all TCDD staff for their efforts to complete this task.

TCDD hosted the NACDD Executive Director's Summit in September. The event was very well attended with 36 states represented and included the Texas DD Network Partners sharing experiences for their collaborative efforts. A panel discussion on Texas initiatives for Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision-Making was held at the Texas Capitol and included Senator Judith Zaffirini, former TCDD Public Policy Specialist Belinda Carlton, David Slayton of the Office of Court Administration, and Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan Hecht who discussed their work to see these changes implemented, as well as the first person to sign a Supported Decision-Making Agreement along with his supporter.

5. **Consideration of FY 2016 Annual Internal Audit Report**

Chair Durham introduced Dan Graves from Weaver & Tidwell, LLC, who presented a brief overview of FY 2016 internal audit activities on website maintenance, the FY 2016 Annual Internal Audit Report and the FY 2017 Annual Internal Audit Plan.

Graves first discussed the FY 2016 internal audit activities to note that the controls over the website maintenance processes were rated overall as satisfactory and that six findings were identified within the two audit objectives. Graves reported that TCDD management has reviewed and accepted the findings and drafted a response with implementation dates.

Graves next discussed the FY 2016 Annual Internal Audit Report which is the formal report due to the State Auditor's Office (SAO) and must be posted to the TCDD website in November 2016. The report is in a format prescribed by the SAO and includes the overview of FY 2016 internal audit activities, consulting and non-audit services performed for TCDD, Internal Audit Quality Assurance Report, overview of FY 2017 Internal Audit Plan, and external audit services.

Graves discussed the plans for FY 2017 internal audit activities to cover grant management and administration and noted that field work for these activities is planned for March 2017. Also included will be follow up to the 2015 internal audit on controls and procedures and he noted that the field work for this portion has been completed and shows management has responded to all of the recommendations. The final piece of the FY 2017 internal audit activities will consist of follow-up to the 2016 internal audit on website maintenance and the field work is planned for May 2017.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2016 Internal Audit Report for submission to the State Auditor's Office.

MADE BY: Scott McAvoy for the Audit Committee. (motions from Committee do not need a second)

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 1)

6. **Selection of TCDD Nominating Committee Members**

Project Development Committee Chair Gladys Cortez reported the selection of Kimberly Blackmon as that Committee's representative to the TCDD Nominating Committee. Public Policy Committee Chair Lora Taylor reported the selection of Hunter Adkins as that Committee's representative to the Nominating Committee. Rick Tisch was asked if he would be willing to serve as the third member of the Committee and he agreed.

MOTION: To form the TCDD Nominating Committee of Hunter Adkins, Kimberly Blackmon, and Rick Tisch.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee.

The motion **passed** unanimously.

7. **Future Activities for State Plan Implementation**

Project Development Committee Chair Cortez reported on Committee discussion of the executive summary for a Texas Sibling Network. This project would develop a statewide network that increases opportunities for siblings in Texas to connect, receive and share information; develop leadership and advocacy skills; and to receive supports to advocate for themselves and their siblings. Funding is recommended at up to \$85,000 per year for up to five years.

MOTION: To approve the Executive Summary to fund a Texas Sibling Network at \$85,000 per year for up to five years.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee.

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 2)

Cortez reported that the Committee recommends adding the new Texas Sibling Network project to the Future Funding Priorities list as the third priority. The Partnership with African American Clergy to Support Families project is being removed from the list as this was designed to work in collaborative efforts with the Hogg Foundation and is no longer needed.

MOTION: To approve revisions to the Future Funding Priorities list by placing projects in the following order: (1) Translation Services; (2) Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision-Making DD Network Project; (3) Texas Sibling Network; (4) Support for Student Research-Related Expenses on Disability-Related Topics; (5) Peer Support for Specialists for Person Directed Planning.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 3).

8. **Position Statement Review**

Public Policy Committee Chair Lora Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee reviewed draft revisions to five position statements. The Committee reviewed the Public Transportation Systems statement and recommended revisions as presented in Council materials.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Public Transportation Systems Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 4).

Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee discussed the Criminal Justice position statement and recommended revisions as presented in Council materials with the removal of the word “and” in the first paragraph which was an error in the draft.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Criminal Justice Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 5).

Taylor reported that the Committee discussed the Right to Privacy position statement and recommended revisions as presented in Council materials including the addition to the title of “Confidentiality of Information”.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Right to Privacy-Confidentiality of Information Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** without opposition. Ivy Goldstein, Donnie Wilson, and April Young abstained from voting. (Attachment 6).

Taylor reported that the Committee discussed the Service Coordination position statement and recommended revisions as presented in Council materials with three additional edits. The edits include eliminating the words “to participate” in the last sentence of the second paragraph, changing culturally “competent” to culturally “sensitive” in the sixth paragraph, and eliminating “purpose of public benefits” from the first bullet of the eighth paragraph.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Service Coordination Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** without opposition. Donnie Wilson and April Young abstained from voting. (Attachment 7).

Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee discussed the Education position statement and recommended revisions as presented in Council materials. The Council engaged in a discussion of the second paragraph, specifically regarding the language “The number of students requiring these (*special education*) services should not be predetermined according to the fixed percentages of the general student population, but should be based exclusively on the objectives of each student’s strengths and needs by qualified professionals”. No additional revisions were made.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Education Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** with 14 votes to approve. Scott McAvoy, Ron Roberts and John Thomas voted in opposition. Gladys Cortez abstained from voting. (Attachment 8).

9. **Presentation: Region 17 Education Service Center – Family Involvement in Schools**

Staff from Region 17 were unable to attend the meeting so the presentation will be postponed to a future meeting.

10. **Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion**

Executive Director Stalvey discussed the Council’s increased focus on addressing disproportionalities and disparities in Council business as outlined in the FY 2017 – FY 2021 State Plan. One recent effort was TCDD hosting a workshop entitled Undoing Racism that was

facilitated by The People's Institute. There were 40 participants from across the Council network including TCDD staff and Council members, grantees, advocate colleagues and community leaders. Future Committee and Council meetings will give members the opportunity to discuss these issues, strategies to address these issues, and ways to improve or change the way the Council does business.

Project Development Committee Chair Cortez reported that Committee had a strong discussion and noted that efforts will be made to be more purposeful in addressing disproportionalities and disparities in RFP development.

Public Policy Committee Chair Taylor reported that Committee had a wonderful discussion and thanked the agency representatives for the insight offered on the tools that are available to address this issue.

11. Communications and Marketing Activities Report

Communications Director Joshua Ryf provided updates on communications activities from the past quarter. He discussed highlights of social media posts and noted the increasing number of individuals that are being reached. Ryf reported on events that TCDD staff attended during the quarter throughout the state and noted that because of attendance at six events, approximately 180 people learned of TCDD, there are 76 new subscribers to TCDD emails and there are eight new individuals interested in applying to be Council members. Ryf concluded by discussing the different advocacy opportunities, policy comments, and information and marketing campaigns for TCDD RFPs and disability events.

Durheim reported that the Executive Committee discussed options for maintaining the Council Member Only section of the website with the requirements for individualized login and passwords and determined that there was not enough usage to justify the effort.

MOTION: To eliminate the Council Member Only section of the TCDD website.

MADE BY: Mary Durheim for the Executive Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously.

12. Executive Committee Report

Chair Durheim reviewed the grant funding that was awarded during the Executive Committee meeting. Continuation grant funding was awarded to Community Healthcore (Building Community Capacity through Collaboration), Disability Rights Texas (Guardianship Alternatives Training), and Reaching Families Advocacy and Support Group (Culturally Appropriate Family Supports). Four event stipends and one speaker stipend were awarded this quarter.

The Executive Committee reviewed an appeal from West Central Texas Regional Foundation who did not receive funding for Higher Education Collaborative grant and the Com-

mittee determined that the proper process was followed and the original decision to not fund was upheld.

The Committee approved eight new individuals to the pool of potential Independent Review Panel members.

Operations Director Cantu reviewed the quarterly financial reports and noted that administrative expenses for FY 2016 are final. She noted that although the summary of funds report shows there to be projected negative balances, these numbers are expected to fluctuate due to actual grant expenditures and project start dates. The Executive Committee members did not express any concerns with the agency financial reports.

The Committee reviewed Conflict of Interest disclosures and no concerns were noted.

13. Project Development Committee Report

Project Development Committee Chair Cortez reported that five new projects began during the previous quarter included three Leadership and Advocacy projects, one Public Policy Fellowship and one Outreach and Development project. The Committee requested Jason Sabo provide a presentation at the February 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting in preparation for legislative visits.

14. Public Policy Committee Report

Public Policy Committee Chair Taylor reported on Committee discussion of Public Policy Staff Activities. They reviewed the HHSC LAR summary and discussed issue briefs on Special Education and School Choice, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education and SSLCs. The Committee also discussed the potential impact of a future Supreme Court decision in the Endrew v. Douglas County School District case on standards of special education.

15. Audit Committee Report

In the absence of Audit Committee Chair Kristen Cox, Council Chair Durham reported on the Audit Committee meeting. She noted that the Council will need to select a new auditing firm for FY 2018 – FY 2021. Operations Director Cantu reviewed the timeline for this process which will begin with a RFP posting in April 2017 and evaluations of proposals throughout the summer of 2017 so that a recommendation can be presented to the Council at the August 2017 meeting. Audit Committee members Scott McAvoy and John Thomas will participate in evaluating the proposals.

16. State Agency Representatives Quarterly Activities Report

Texas Center for Disability Services (TCDS) representative Zack Ahonle reported that they are preparing to work with the A&M Center on Development and Disability's (CDD) TCDD Higher Education Collaborative project. He also noted that they are beginning an employment related training project that will be in conjunction with Texas Workforce Commission that will be similar in scope to Project SEARCH projects but will serve individuals with significant intellectual disabilities.

A&M CDD representative Dalun Zhang reported that the center has just completed the first year of its five-year state plan and had doubled the number of projects in that year due to an increase in funding from AIDD. He reported that Project CASE which is funded by TCDD is going exceptionally well with more student demand than they can accommodate. He discussed their Purposeful Life program which has had great success and requests to replicate the program in other areas.

Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)/Medicaid alternate representative April Young reported that representative Nancy Walker retired on October 31, 2016 so Young is now assisting with coordinating Medical/Social Services (MSS) division activities. The MSS division hopes to streamline activities for a number of programs. She reported that the STAR Kids managed care initiative kicked off on November 1, 2016 for individuals under the age of 21 who receive SSI. HHSC has designated a specific email address that consumers can contact with questions or concerns about STAR Kids. She also reported that Community First Choice (CFC), which provides attendant and habilitation care in the community for individuals that need institutional levels of care, continues to grow with approximately 30,000 individuals registered. HHSC is looking to streamline the CFC application process. She reported that the Employment First Taskforce recently completed the second report and will soon be delivered to legislators.

Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)/Older Americans Act representative Donnie Wilson discussed efforts around Person Centered Planning and reported that online introductory training modules have been established. A workgroup is being established and stakeholders are being recruited to define the Person Centered Planning process in Texas.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)/Title V/Maternal Child Health, Ivy Goldstein reported that the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CHSCN) program housed at the Department of State Health Services is now referred to as the CHSCN Systems Development Group. The program conducts ongoing needs assessments and completes annual surveys. There is a current survey for primary care and specialty care physicians seeking provider input to guide the program's work.

Texas Workforce Commission(TWC)/Rehabilitation Act Programs representative Jennifer Kaut reported on Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) activities including expanded pre-employment services. She noted that developmental disorders including autism, AD/HD and intellectual disabilities are the largest group of consumers serviced by the vocational rehabilitation (VR) program and that terminology within the VR program is changing from cognitive to neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Texas Education Agency (TEA)/Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) representative Ron Roberts explained his position within TEA in the IDEA Support division where he investigates special education compliance. He discussed recent news reports that school districts were under direction to only allow special education services to 8.5%

of students and stated that this perceived directive was never brought to the attention of staff in his division or it would have been addressed. He feels concerned that parents were not aware of or did not exercise their right to due process so that issues could have been resolved. He states that there is no limit on students who can receive special education services. His division will look at corrective actions for non-compliant school districts and will do outreach to parents to inform them of their rights.

17. Announcements and Updates

Council members discussed dates and locations of future meetings of February 8-10, 2017 (Holiday Inn Austin Midtown), May 3–5, 2017, August 2-4, 2017, and November 1-3, 2017 (tentative).

Adjourn

Council Chair Durham adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date

Council Meeting
Attachments to November 2016 Minutes

The minutes of the November 2016 Council meeting refer to eight (8) attachment items:

1. FY 2016 Internal Audit Report — tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A1-TCDD-Annual-Report-2016.pdf
2. Executive Summary for Texas Sibling Network project — <http://www.tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A2-Exec-Sum-Sibling-Support-Network.pdf>
3. Future Funding Priorities list revisions — tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A3-Future-Funding-Chart-Sep16.pdf
4. Public Transportation Systems Position Statements — tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A4-Public-Transportation-Systems-PS.pdf
5. Criminal Justice Position Statements — tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A5-Criminal-Justice-PS.pdf
6. Right to Privacy Position Statements — tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A6-Right-Privacy-PS.pdf
7. Service Coordination Position Statements — tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A7-Service-Coordination-PS.pdf
8. Education Position Statements — tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tab13-A8-Education-PS.pdf

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE November 3, 2016 — MINUTES

Council Members Present

Mary Durham, Council Chair
Hunter Adkins
Patty Anderson, DRT
Kimberly Blackmon
Gladys Cortez
Rachel Jew, DSHS
Jennifer Kaut, DARS
Ruth Mason
Scott McAvoy
Michael Peace
Dana Perry
Ron Roberts, TEA
Amy Sharp, UT CDS
David Taylor
Lora Taylor
Richard Tisch
John Thomas
April Young, HHSC
Donnie Wilson, DADS
Dalun Zhang, A&M CDD

Council Members Absent

Kristine Clark
Kristen Cox
Mateo Delgado
Stephen Gersuk
Brandon Pharris

Guests Present

Justin Babineaux, DADS
Melinda Bect
Angela Biggs
Jan Brown, JAS
Isabel Evans
Ivy Goldstein, DSHS
Ted Johnson, JAS
Steve Kester
Amy Litzinger
Linda Litzinger
Tonya McFarland
Karen McKinnon, JAS

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive
Director
Martha Cantu
Joanna Cordry
Cynthia Ellison
Danny Fikac
Ashley Ford
Linda Logan
Jessica Ramos
Meghan Regis
Fernando Rodriguez
Joshua Ryf
Koren Vogel

Call To Order

The Committee of the Whole of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Thursday, November 3, 2016, in the Colony C Ballroom of the Sonesta Bee Cave - Austin, 12525 Bee Cave Parkway, Bee Cave, TX 78738. Council Chair Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

1. Introductions

Council members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

2. Public Comments

Public comments were deferred until later in the meeting.

3. 85th Texas Legislature Preparation

Public Policy Specialist Linda Logan discussed public education issues in Texas. She began with federal policy Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that returns a great deal of control to the states in determining how they achieve federal goals regarding standardized testing, accountability and remedies for failing schools. Logan next discussed the federal Workforce Innovation and

Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Section 511 provisions for transition age youth.

Logan discussed Texas specific issues for special education services including the number of Texas students receiving special education services; positive behavior interventions and supports; and use of restraint and seclusion; supported decision-making; and disproportionality in special education.

4. Public Comments

Chair Durham allowed public comments to be offered at this time in the meeting when all guests were present. Public comments were received from Linda Litzinger and Maggie Souter on teacher qualifications and legislation that would require general education teachers to have training on special education and inclusion services.

Angela Biggs offered comments on her daughter who is a resident at a State Supported Living Center but has a referral for community placement and hopes to be able to receive the services she needs in the community.

5. 85th Texas Legislature Preparation - continued

Public Policy Director Jessica Ramos discussed the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR). She reviewed highlights of the Exceptional Items Requests which include funding for: maintaining caseloads for Early Childhood Interventions, Promoting Independence initiatives, Interest List reductions, State Supported Living Centers and State Hospitals, Intensive Behavioral Interventions for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders, community attendant wages, and day-habilitation compliance. She also discussed proposed rate reduction options that could have an impact on consumer services.

6. Screening of *Bottom Dollars* Documentary

Members viewed a documentary film produced by the Washington State protection and advocacy agency called *Bottom Dollars*. The film looked at sub-minimum wage employment policy and highlighted individuals currently or previously working in these settings. It also featured individuals with significant disabilities working in competitive employment.

Adjourn

Council Chair Durham adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 1:10 PM.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date

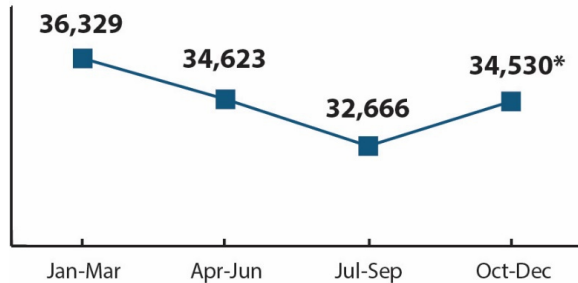
Communications and Marketing Activities Report	Tab 14
<p>Background: TCDD Communications Director Joshua Ryf will provide an update on communications and marketing activities for the previous quarter. Data and details of these activities are included in the enclosed report.</p>	
<p>Council — Agenda Item 9 Expected Action: The Council will discuss the report and may provide further guidance to staff.</p>	

Communications and Marketing Activities Report February 2017

Website



Website Visits



Top 20 Webpages Visited

Pages highlighted in **bold** feature original TCDD content designed to educate the public.

Webpage	Number of Visits
Total webpage visits for quarter	34,530*
People First Language	2,054
Home Page	1,972
Workplace Bullying: Know Your Rights	1,746
Updated Texas Service Dog Law 14 Facts for 2014	1,461
Texas Legislature	988
Supported Decision-Making	579
Funding Available	552
What is a Developmental Disability?	361
Guardianship Alternatives	333
Documents Needed to Vote	328
Update: Autism Services in Texas	284
RFP: Youth Leadership Development Projects	258
Legislative Advocacy Tips	220
Current Grant Projects	195
Staff Directory	177
About Us	175
Grants	174
Publications and Multimedia	174
News and Information	166
Jobs	153

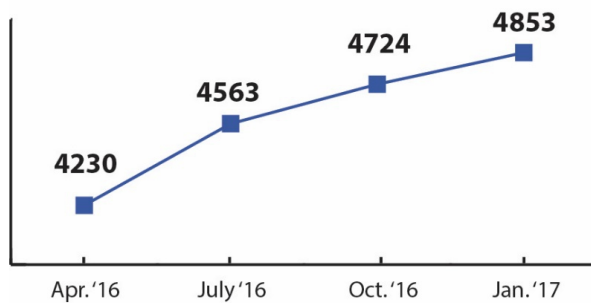
PDF Downloads from Website

PDFs highlighted in **bold** are print versions of TCDD blog posts and webpages.

Publication/Blog Post	Number of Downloads
Total PDF downloads for quarter	616
People First Language	144
Supported Decision-Making Agreement	135
Higher Education Resource Guide for Students with Disabilities - English	48
Workplace Bullying: Know Your Rights Blog Post	20
STAR Kids Checklist: What You Need to Be Doing Now! — English	17
Grants Manual	15
2014 Texas Biennial Disability Report	15
The Next Step: Discussion Guide	9
Higher Education Resource Guide for Students with Disabilities —Spanish	9
TCDD Organization Chart	9
TCDD Brochure	8
Impact TCDD 2014 Annual Report	8
How a Bill Becomes a Law in Texas Infographic	8
Texas STAR Kids Flyer — English	7
TCDD FY 2017–2021 State Plan Goals and Objectives	6
November 2016 Meeting Binder	6
2017 Public Policy Priorities	5
Restraint and Seclusion in Texas Schools Resource from "Texas and the Federal Keeping All Students Safe Act" Blog Post	4
Education Position Statement (February 2015 approved version)	4
August 2016 Meeting Binder	4

*Total website visits based on projections due to incomplete analytics

Facebook



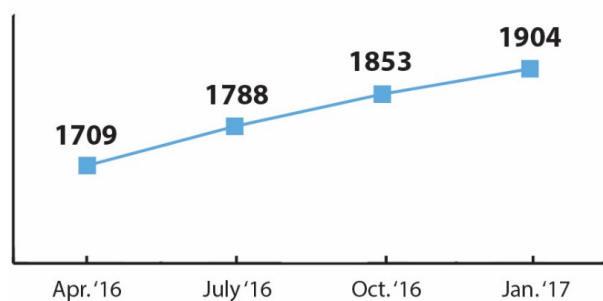
Top Facebook Posts

Post Message	Total Reach
House Speaker Joe Straus vows to reverse cuts to therapy services for kids with disabilities	4,645
Any parents in Houston and Dallas turn out at forums, demanding end to Texas' special education cap	4,434
BREAKING: House Speaker Joe Straus calls for immediate overhaul of how the Texas Education Agency identifies students who need special education services.	4,180
REPORT: Texas Medicaid Program Ranks 50TH	3,450
U.S. officials warn of further disability provider closures in Texas	3,023
Angry parents, advocates call for probe into Texas' special ed cap	3,006
Unable to get special education services in Texas, one family moved to Pennsylvania	2,719
Target Offers Quiet Shopping Hours for People with Autism During The Holidays	2,711
Denied: Houston schools block kids with disabilities from receiving special education services	2,441
BREAKING: Texas to cut therapy rates for children with disabilities	2,255
Facing pressure to cut special education, Texas schools shut out English Language Learners	2,141
Students with disabilities – Parents need to think twice before seeking guardianship when the student turns 18	2,068
Therapy Cuts for Young Children with Disabilities Set to Go into Effect Today	1,661
ICYMI: TEA Seeks Your Input	1,533
TEA tells schools they must serve kids with disabilities	1,499

Reach: the number of unique people who received impressions of a Page post

Twitter

Twitter Followers



Top Tweets

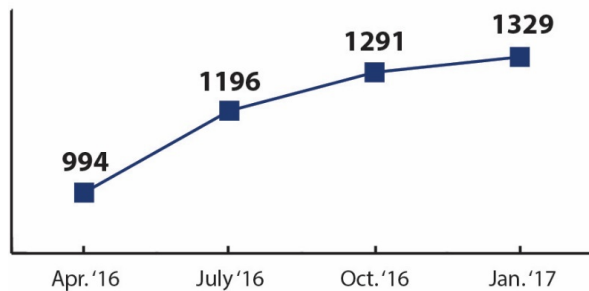
Tweet	Total Impressions
October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Check out ODEP's Resource Toolbox: https://t.co/TTNQ5lyd15 #InclusionWorks #NDEAM https://t.co/GN3XnqEXYX	7,973
Panel discussion about #employment for people with #disabilities in #Texas following screening of #BottomDollars. Via @DisRightsTx @TCDS_UT https://t.co/1AFXgg3hsT	1,170
Screening now. Panel discussion afterwards. Event co-hosted by @DisRightsTx and @TCDS_UT. Film produced by @rootedinrights. https://t.co/V7zVZPp8wM	1,144
@CSGovts and @NCSLorg organized the Nat'l Task Force on Workforce Development for People w/Disabilities, which developed this report #CSG2016 https://t.co/d1pd6RX3MZ	1,093
#Texas premiere of Bottom Dollars is about to begin. Hosted by @disrightstx and @tcds_ut. https://t.co/9NDIzHofqT	994
BREAKING: STAR Kids Advisory Committee approves motion to recommend @TexasHHSC delay implementation of STAR Kids for 1 year #Medicaid #Texas	963
TCDD Council and staff members with Lex Frieden (center) at the 2016 Lex Frieden #Employment Awards in #Houston. https://t.co/Gou4kiJBhk	884
#Advocacy opportunity: House Public #Education Committee hearing (9 a.m., Oct. 17). More: https://t.co/QxdJjCwY3h #disability #Texas #txlege	881
2015 legislative budget decisions lead to the loss of access to Early Childhood Intervention services for some East Texans. #ECI #txlege https://t.co/dOy4wRD9w	816
@theheartprogram and @BlueLance developed an iPad app to help people with IDD record vending machine inventories: https://t.co/itofUpuytH https://t.co/ID6CEAKWVm	792
Thursday in #Austin: comment on access to special education services. Info: https://t.co/HgwViz3YRD Hosted by @usedgov and @teainfo https://t.co/nf6e40LQsX	724

Impressions: the number of times a tweet has been seen

Email



Email Subscribers



Email Messages

The following emails were sent to eNews subscribers.

Email Subject	Opens	Clicks
RFP: Youth Leadership Development Projects	36.88%	10.63%
Upcoming Advocacy Opportunities (Oct. 21)	28.27%	3.57%
TEA Listening Sessions	26.63%	2.46%
Upcoming Advocacy Opportunities (Dec. 28)	26.38%	4.25%
TxDOT Workshops	26.17%	2.31%
November 2016 Council Meeting	26.07%	1.75%
NDI Survey	25.30%	4.38%
Events Next Week (Nov. 29)	24.45%	4.15%
Job Posting: Grants Manager	23.78%	0.78%
Present at NACDD Annual Conference	20.90%	2.10%
TxDOT Workshops (January Edition)	20.51%	2.02%

I&R Requests and Distribution

Information and Referral (I&R) Requests: Staff responded to 49 requests for information and referral.

Printed Materials Distributed

- People First Language Handout: 35
- Higher Education Guide in English: 202
- Higher Education Guide in Spanish: 25
- Impact: TCDD 2014 Annual Report in English: 3
- Next Step DVD: 50
- Next Step DVD Booklet: 5
- 2014 Biennial Disability Report: 2

TCDD Connections

TCDD in El Paso

In late November, TCDD staff traveled to El Paso to connect with people with disabilities and family members in that area of the state. TCDD had an exhibit table at Volar Center for Independent Living's (CIL) 2016 Our Lives Disabilities Conference & Service Providers Expo. During the event, staff connected with 25 conference participants and identified one potential Council member.



Also while in El Paso, TCDD staff held two focus groups to get feedback from youth and adults with disabilities regarding their expectations about employment and meaningful day activities. The first focus group was held at Montwood High School and included 17 high school students from Socorro ISD (pictured below) who participate in a Community Access Program. Almost all of the students expressed a desire to go to college, get a job, and live independently. The second focus group was held at Volar CIL and seven adults with disabilities participated. Members of this focus group cited a shortage of reliable personal care workers and a lack of adequate transportation options as barriers to employment and meaningful day activities.

TCDD at Disability-Related Events

To raise awareness about TCDD and the opportunities we provide for people and organizations to get involved with TCDD, we occasionally participate in disability-related events in Texas.

Fiscal Year 2017

Event	Location	Received TCDD Info	Email Subscribers	Potential Council Members
ATCIC Managers	Austin	13	13	0
Volar CIL Our Lives Disability Conference	El Paso	25	14	1
Socorro ISD Focus Group	El Paso	17	0	0
Volar CIL Focus Group	El Paso	7	0	0
no data	Totals	62	27	1

Fiscal Year 2016

Event	Location	Received TCDD Info	Email Subscribers	Potential Council Members
Central Texas African American Family Support Conference	Austin	50	22	2
Family to Family Network's 11th Annual Special Education & Transition Conference & Resource Fair	Houston	40	17	8
Texas State Independent Living Council Conference	San Antonio	35	17	2
Bluebonnet Trails Community Services – Service Coordinators Meeting	Round Rock	30	25	0
The H.E.A.R.T. Program Open House	Houston	30	2	0
Harris Center Picnic in the Park	Houston	75	38	3
4th Annual LoneStar LEND Conference	Houston	40	24	0
12th Annual TxP2P Conference	San Marcos	150	98	9
Call with DSHS Contractors	Statewide	50	0	0
IDD Sock Hop	Georgetown	10	0	1
Texas Advocates Conference	San Marcos	50	18	0
HHS Cross-Systems Summit	San Marcos	40	14	1
PACSTX Conference	Galveston	40	20	0
PRN Resource Fair	Lubbock	30	11	6
no data	Totals	670	306	32

Upcoming events

- February 8-9 – Central Texas African American Family Support Conference (Austin)*
- February 12-14 – Inclusion Works! Conference (Houston)
- February 22-24 – Texas Transition Conference (Houston)
- March 1-2 – Transportation Works Summit (Austin)*

TCDD will have a presence at events marked with an asterisk (*).

Blog Posts



Get Ready for the 85th Texas Legislative Session

The 85th Session of the Texas Legislature begins on Tuesday, January 10, 2017, with adjournment set for Monday, May 29. Get key dates and learn about the steps you can take to get involved in the legislative process.



Technology with HEART

By developing an iPad app that helps record vending machine inventories, The HEART Program in Houston is one tap closer to helping adults with IDD achieve their employment potential.



Comment on Access to Special Education Services at a Listening Session

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services and the Texas Education Agency will be conducting listening sessions in Texas during the week of December 12.



TCDD Seeks Grant and Contract Compliance Specialist

TCDD is accepting applications for its Grant and Contract Compliance Specialist position until January 17, 2017. The specialist monitors and provides technical assistance for TCDD grants and contracts.



Present at NACDD's Annual Conference in Utah

TCDD encourages organizations to submit proposals and share best practices with other states at the 2017 NACDD Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. The deadline to submit a proposal is January 31.



TxDOT to Host Additional Transportation Workshops

TxDOT will continue to conduct its series of regional workshops to get input from local stakeholders regarding how to improve transportation for people with disabilities and older adults in rural areas.

Quarterly Council and Committee Meetings

Tentative Dates:

May 3-5, 2017

Sheraton Georgetown

August 2-4, 2017

Hilton Austin Airport

November 1-3, 2017 (tentative)

February 7-9, 2018

Council Meeting — Agenda Item 14

Expected Action:

Discussion only; no action is anticipated.